

BAY COUNTIES WPA WORKERS' STRIKE GROWING

HEAR LAWRENCE SIMPSON
OAKLAND—CARPENTERS HALL
(April 6)
S. F.—DREAMLAND AUDITORIUM
(April 7)
See Page 2

Western Worker

PEOPLE'S CHAMPION OF LIBERTY, PROGRESS AND PEACE

Sit-Down Reaches Hawaii
HILO, T. H.—The sit-down strike reached the Hawaiian Islands when 30 women laundry workers refused to budge from their wash tubs after they halted work and demanded hourly wage increases ranging from three to five cents.

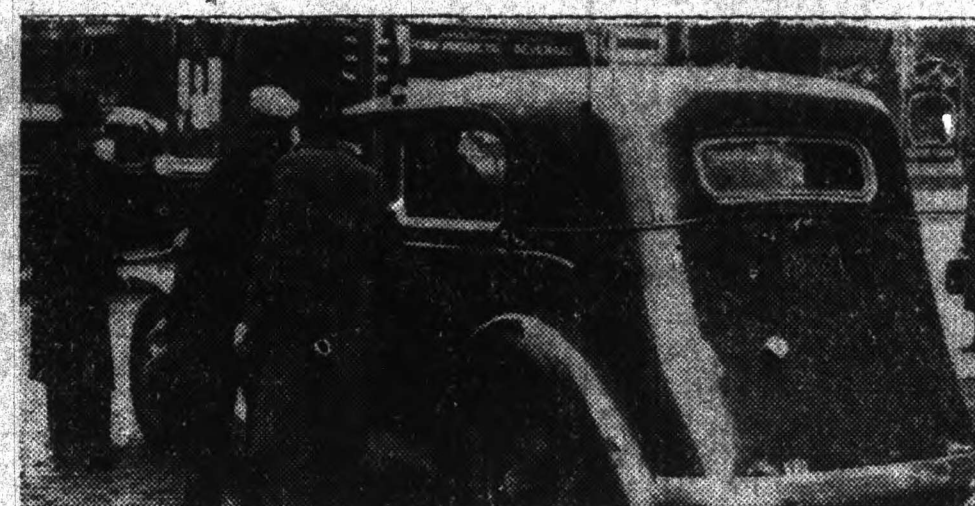
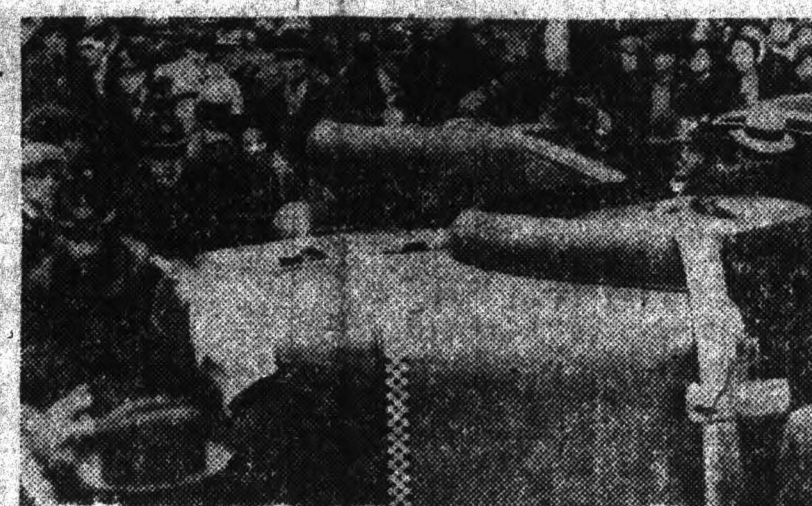
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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. MONDAY, APRIL 5, 1937.

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SPANISH GOVT. In Major Advances; Fascist Troops Rebel



IN THE NATION-WIDE WAVE OF UNION ORGANIZATION—extreme left, a union serenade. United Auto Workers Union 12-piece band plays before Detroit court house, pickets parade around building in protest of injunction against Chrysler strikers. Next, another CIO victory. General Electric recognizes CIO. United Electrical and Radio Workers Union; James B. Carey, 28-year-old union president discusses union demands with General Electric vice president Burroughs. Next photo: Scab cruise ends; a Checker cab overturned in the Chicago taxi strike. Next to last photo, a Chicago taxi driver signs up with the union. Last photo: Auto union members inside Detroit court in protest against Chrysler injunction.

12,000 Out Against Plan For Layoffs

(See Editorial Below)

SAN FRANCISCO—More than 12,000 WPA workers on both white collar and labor projects were on strike Thursday in Alameda and San Francisco Counties as a three-county strike call became effective. The strike was spreading.

Another thousand were expected to be out in Contra

L. A. to Ballot Tuesday

LOS ANGELES—Vote for these candidates next Tuesday. They have all been endorsed by one or more of the following groups: Co-ordinating Council of Progressive Groups, Municipal League, Continuance Committee for United Political Action.

The Central Labor Council while it has not come out with an endorsement for Mayor, has endorsed a number of the candidates included here.

Vote For These

For Mayor: John Anson Ford. For City Council: 1st district Edward N. Robinson; 2nd district Henry J. Albert; 3rd district Richard R. Burke; 4th district: No opposition; 5th district: Ray L. Donley; 6th district: Walter F. Cranhan; 7th district: no endorsement; 8th district: Jack Massion; 9th district: Adelaide D. Armstrong; 10th district: no preference; 11th district: Ernest O. Voigt; 12th district: no opposition; 13th district: Grover (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Western Worker Readers' Parley In S. F. April 6

The first Western Worker Readers' Conference will be held Tuesday evening, April 6th, 8 p. m., at 121 Haight street, San Francisco. All readers of the Western Worker are urged to participate.

Lawrence Ross, editor of the Western Worker, will make a short report on the tasks and problems of the Western Worker, to be followed by a period of discussion, criticisms and suggestions from the floor.

The object of the conference is to obtain the help of readers in making the Western Worker a popular paper among the workers and other progressives.

Refreshments will be served after the conference, which is open to all, non-Communists as well as Communists.

C. I. O. IN L. A. REJECTS DUAL COUNCIL IDEA

AFL Members to be Considered as Brothers

LOS ANGELES—The CIO in Los Angeles showed that it is not out to split the labor movement, when it rejected a proposal for formation of a separate Labor Council.

The CIO, at a meeting last Monday, agreed with Lou Barren of the Furriers and Israel Feinberg of the Garment Workers, that the CIO committee should regard itself as part of the AFL and should work in close harmony with the AFL unions.

It was decided to form a committee of nine to draft a program for organization of the basic industries.

William Busick, of the ILGWU, was in favor of a separate labor council.

LOS ANGELES—A drive for organization of all Los Angeles retail stores has been launched by the Department Store Employees Union.

37,500 Shut Off Relief in L.A.

LOS ANGELES—At one clip, 37,500 persons were shut off relief in this county on Wednesday. They had been receiving cash relief under the provisions of the California public Welfare Act.

Rex Thompson, superintendent of charities, said all available funds for direct relief had been exhausted.

The State Supreme Court is soon to rule on the legality of issuing \$1,700,000 worth of registered warrants by the county government against anticipated revenues from delinquent taxes, to help carry the relief load.

AIMED AT SITDOWNS—CHICAGO—Sitdown strikes were declared outlawed in an opinion by Superior Judge Joseph B. Alegritti at a hearing.

Labor Party Plans Take Shape, Sacto.

SACRAMENTO—The capital city will see its first conference for independent political action, to be held at Labor Temple, April 14 at 8 p. m.

The Sacramento Committee for Independent Political Action is contacting all local unions, asking each to send two delegates to enlarge the committee. Many locals are responding.

GRAND JURY IS OUSTED IN S. F.

Graft Probe Gets Nowhere Fast In Political Stew

SAN FRANCISCO—In a swirling political ferment, the police graft investigation was getting nowhere fast last Thursday when Presiding Judge Steiger climaxed a week of political charges and countercharges by dismissing the grand jury, for which he listed the following reasons:

The jurors had destroyed public confidence by internal bickering; at least four jurors had been under scrutiny in connection with affiliations to Pete McDonough and other persons or groups named in the Atherton report; reversal of their position in first asking that Dist. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

TULARE FARMER DEFENDS CATTLE

Charge Reckless Killing of Non-Infected Cows

VISALIA, Tulare County—Slaughter of non-infected cattle has again flared up as a burning issue among Tulare County farmers.

Reckless Killing—Officials in charge of the Tulare County bovine tuberculosis eradication ordinance are seeking dissolution of a temporary injunction against testing of cattle. The injunction was obtained to halt reckless killing, by inspectors, of cattle which farmers claim are healthy.

The Public and the WPA Strike

(An Editorial)

The issues in the tri-county WPA strike are clear: rescinding of the order which calls for the lay-off of 25,000 California workers, and for the payment of the 10 per cent increase in wages.

Recent official figures by the American Federation of Labor show unemployment to be on the increase throughout the county. Private industry therefore will not absorb any discharged WPA workers. Lay-offs now would mean a substantial increase of the army of unemployed in California. They must be stopped!

The cost of living has risen at least 10 per cent since the fixing of WPA wages and hours. WPA workers are asking to be permitted to work a few hours longer a month in order to meet the rising cost of living, which is essential if any standards of decency are to be maintained by families dependent on WPA wages!

COLUMBIA STEEL IN PITTSBURG SIGNS WITH CIO

New Amalgamated Lodge Has 73 Per Cent of Employees

OAKLAND—The CIO Amalgamated Assn. has signed up over 1000 workers in Judson Steel.

PITTSBURG, Contra Costa County—The Columbia Steel workers here were not to be outdone by their brothers in Torrance, and as a result they have set up an Amalgamated Assn. lodge with 73 per cent of the 2400 Columbia Steel workers as members. It was another of their amazing CIO victories.

The company, U. S. Steel subsidiary, hastened to sign an agreement granting CIO recognition, and the agreement went into effect this week. Over 325 men joined the union in one day at a meeting last Sunday.

Strike of 400,000 Miners is Set

DETROIT—120,000 auto workers, mainly in General Motors, were on strike in this state Thursday against violations of agreements.

NEW YORK—With the soft coal mining industry moving head on toward a general strike of 400,000 men by the end of the week, John L. Lewis advised operators Wednesday to arrange for maintenance crews.

The United Mine Workers' latest demands, for a \$6 basic daily wage, and a 9 cents tonnage raise for cutting and loading, had been rejected by mine companies.

SPLITTING ACTION—ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis Central Labor Council has suspended all CIO unions from membership.

STRIKE SEEMS CERTAIN ON SP RAILROAD

Vote Unanimous; No F.D. Intervention Is Expected

With a practically unanimous vote to strike returned by every locality, a walkout of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Engineers and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen seemed certain in a few days on the Southern Pacific.

The walkout will affect operations from New Mexico to Oregon.

Interviewed by a WESTERN WORKER reporter on Wednesday, Vice-president C. V. McLaughlin of the Firemen, and Vice-president H. C. Smith of the Trainmen stated that a strike affecting 8000 members of the Firemen and Trainmen seemed certain if demands are not (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

I. L. A. TAKES UP VITAL ISSUES

Second Membership Meet on Coast Convention

SAN FRANCISCO—A mass meeting of Bay Area Council, Maritime Federation, will be held April 13 to discuss issues for the coming Federation convention.

The Council has set up a committee of one from each affiliated union, to continue steps toward bringing about a national uniform policy for the maritime unions.

SAN FRANCISCO—Second special meeting of ILA Local 38-79 will be held Sunday morning, April 18, at Dreamland Auditorium, in preparation for the Coast ILA and the Maritime Federation conventions.

District President Bridges' report and convention resolutions will be discussed by the membership.

Policy in regard to renewal (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Loyalists in Drive Upon Burgos Now

The tide of battle in Spain has turned overwhelmingly in favor of the Loyalist armies who are following up their advantage with major offensives on two separate fronts while fighting back the latest scattered offensives of the disintegrating fascist troops.

As the government gained headway, the disintegration of the fascists was hurried by disintegration and strife in the ranks, including troop revolts in all important rebel-held centers, both in Morocco and on the Spanish mainland. The revolts included open antagonism between Spanish rebel officers and Moorish troops with the campaign as a whole.

Loyalist armies for the first time entered Burgos province, sweeping unhindered toward the fascist capital of Burgos while capturing new military weapons from the retreating army.

Another government army of four columns was pursuing a rebel army in complete rout after stopping its drive on Pozoblanco, important quicksilver mining center in northern Cordoba province.

Mussolini's flight became imminent and certain unless new reinforcements come (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

Anti-Co. Guard Bill Approved

SACRAMENTO—A big forward step against terrorism by employers in strikes is contained in the favorably recommended bill making employers civilly responsible for acts of special police and guards employed during a strike.

The Assembly Crime Problems Committee has put the stamp of approval on the bill, despite the bitter opposition of the Los Angeles Merchants and Manufacturers lobby.

Reactionaries wanted to amend the bill to include trade unions, but State Federation legislative representative Vandeleur fought this.

SISKIYOU CO. IN HOSPITAL MISTREATMENT

YREKA, Siskiyou County—Improper treatment in the Siskiyou County General Hospital lost Everett Calkins his foot, and he is suing Siskiyou County for \$50,000.

Calkins was injured while in the employ of the California Oregon Power and Light Co. He says a bake oven was so defective that his foot was burned and amputation necessitated.

Fascist Failures Increase

MADRID—Disintegrating Fascist troops were retreating, leaving huge stores of supplies and equipment behind, as a loyalist army driving southward from Santander on the Bay of Biscay entered Burgos province and drove toward the fascist capital. Midway between Santander and the city of Burgos, the government troops occupied Sargantes, taking numerous prisoners.

BILBAO—A fascist drive against this loyalist-held port on the Bay of Biscay collapsed before it was well under way. Defeated, fascist aviators bombed a church in loyalist territory, wrecking the buildings and killing a priest, several altar boys (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Plan Big Wash'n Drive on Court

SEATTLE—The Washington Commonwealth Federation will in all likelihood soon issue a call to all labor organizations and other progressive King County groups to initiate an intensified campaign for the proposed reform in the Supreme Court.

The drive will probably include a letter-writing drive on congressmen, a signature campaign, and a Civic Auditorium mass meeting.

Yolo Co. Gangs Up On All Transients

WOODLAND, Yolo County—Supervisors of this county have joined Sacramento County authorities in ganging up on transients.

They have issued a warning that Yolo County is shutting down on all relief to transient workers. The latter can starve, for all authorities here care, is the gist of the Supervisors' statement.

An Editorial

Victory depends on public support! YOUR support! The fight of the WPA workers, led by their recognized collective bargaining agencies, is of the deepest concern to the entire organized labor movement and to the public generally. YOU, acting through your trade union or fraternal organization, CAN ASSURE VICTORY.

Send resolutions, telegrams and letters to President Roosevelt and Federal Relief Administrator Hopkins, urging the demands of the WPA strikers be met.

Make a donation, through your organization's treasury, to the WPA strike fund. Send it to WPA strike committee, 83 Sixth street, San Francisco.

WPA strikes with the same demands have been victorious in Washington and other states. Public support won those strikes. It is up to YOU to see that a similar victory is won in San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa counties!

India Prepares for New Struggle Against Great Britain

NATIONALISTS REFUSE TO BE RUBBER STAMP

Refuse Office, Ask Curb on Veto by Governors

MADRAS, India—Forboding a new era of struggle against British domination in India, the Indian National Congress Party has refused to form governments in the six leading provinces where it was given overwhelming majority votes in the recent elections.

Threats of a general strike were increasing as British authorities placed high officials of the Congress Party under arrest and forbade 22 leading labor leaders to attend political meetings.

The eleven provincial legislatures were scheduled to convene Thursday as India's new constitution goes into effect, but the Congress Party refused to assume responsibility for rubber-stamping England's decrees when it was granted no assurance in advance that British governors would not exercise their power of veto on any legislature displeasing to the British ruling class.

The constitution granted to India was carefully framed to set up an appearance of freedom to the elected representatives of the Indian people, but it provides also for strict veto powers of the viceroy and the various provincial governors. Even so, it was bitterly opposed by many reactionaries in British ruling circles.

After the sweeping victories of the Congress Party in the elections, British authorities thought they could persuade the leaders of the party to accept office under such circumstances, with the eventual result of discrediting them before the masses by preventing the adoption of legislation granting any important demands of the Indian people.

May Be Traitors
In all of the six provinces, British authorities are expected to persuade minority leaders of the Congress Party to betray the discipline voted by the majority, and to participate in cabinets. However, when the legislatures convene on April 1, the heavy majorities are expected to make short work of any such turncoats, voting non-confidence.

The six provinces where the Congress Party won huge majorities but refused to form governments unless assurance is given against wholesale veto are Madras, United Provinces, Central Provinces, Bihar, Orissa, and Bombay.

Adding important support to the action taken by the Congress Party, Mahatma M.K. Gandhi, pacifist leader of civil disobedience movement in India, denounced Great Britain with the charge that:

"The British Government has ended the autonomy which it claimed the new constitution had given the provinces" and declared that the British Government "once more has broken the pledge which it has given."

JAPAN EMPEROR DISSOLVES DIET FOLLOWING ROW

Liberal Attack Cabinet for "Submission to Military"

TOKYO—Because the military cabinet of General Senjuro Hayashi "found it impossible to continue working with the present membership," Emperor Hirohito dissolved the Japanese Diet, or lower house of parliament.

Although the law calls for a general election to be held within 30 days after such a dissolution, the action of the emperor presaged new leeway to militarists who have been carrying out their war provoking program despite policies of "conciliation" announced by the cabinet.

Dissolution followed a heated debate in which liberals denounced the government for "spineless submission to the military."

The Hayashi cabinet, which represents none of the major political parties of Japan, was considered at the outset as one intended merely to put a conciliatory front to the critics of the militarists' actions.

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Poison and More Poison Get Together



MORE AND MORE a stooge of Italian and German fascism, Spanish fascist General Franco chats with Gen. Wilhelm Fautsch, who presents his credentials at Salamanca as Nazi ambassador to rebel junta which calls itself a government.

Reminiscences of California Labor

By J. E. SNYDER

The Young Socialist League of Los Angeles in 1910 to 1914, was outstanding in its activities.

A large membership was drawn into the organization. A splendid headquarters was opened and well equipped. A place for games and a pool table, along with a good stage in an auditorium, that held around 500, gave opportunity for mental and physical expression.

George Reeslund and Carl Bruner, two young men of promise and ability, took hold. Dramatic and cultural clubs sprang up and the league looked like a success. Plays were put on that were a credit to any group. Scientific socialist literature was taken up in study classes.

A Junior Group

The league organized a junior group and secured teachers. An attempt was made by the national office of the socialist party to introduce literature for children.

Jack London's writings were very popular at that time. His "Call of the Wild," the "Iron Heel" were read extensively. London wrote two articles at that time that roused the nation: "How I Became a Socialist" and "Revolution." There also appeared at the time "The Scab" and "The Good Soldier," "The Strength of the Strong," by London, added to the work done by Mary Marcey, for the children.

Upton Sinclair was going after the schools, the press and other social institutions with his "Goose Step," the "Brass Check," "The Jungle," which still had its influence.

All this helped to counteract the influence of the "Christian Socialism" of J. Stitt Wilson, Allen Ricker and other preachers who had crept into power in the adult organizations of the socialist party.

Gradually the influence of the battles within the party began to be taken up in the league. The adults "had no time" to give the youth directives. The youth tended to take a stand against the compromising tactics of the Harriman group but without directive from our side, of any particular value, they were confused as to where and how to go.

There was a slackness in discipline at the headquarters. The quality of the plays decreased. Games took precedence over study. Anarchist literature and a lot of sexology crept in. The colony at Llano propagandized the youth membership.

The political campaign to elect Harriman for mayor in 1911 drew in a large number of the young men and women of the league. They were the ones who mapped out the city precinct work and carried on the campaign work. With the McNamara case at its height, the excitement in the thought that they would elect Harriman carried them to high hopes. When the collapse came, their spirits fell to the zero point. The league began its downward course soon after, but rose again in 1913 and 1914 only to be disrupted by the elements that I mentioned before.

The "Colony Way Out" All this upset, in a group with little training in Marxian economics, made the minds of these young people a fertile field for Llano Colony propaganda. This was not the first time in history that the weaker ones in the

movement slipped upon the "colony way" out.

As the Llano Colony went forward, it was hard to discuss with any of them historical causes, but as the decline came, the theory they had read came back to them. They had now had two experiences, one political and the other social and economic.

Up to 1914 the advocates of the idea that the socialist party should attend to political affairs and leave affairs to the unions, prevailed. This was rapidly changing now and a goodly number of the young people began to get in the unions of their trade. They began to bring into the socialist locals reports on their union activities. The IWW was in many centers fighting the party and "hitting the ballot box with an ax." They of course were opposing the AFL and so a stronger bond grew up between union members and party members.

The leaders of the AFL were not very strong for the "red" leadership in the party in Los Angeles. We had made little effort to get a leadership in our way of thinking in the unions. The Harriman and Wheeler section of the party had done this.

Our party leadership was correspondingly weak, and we were branded as "impossibilists."

We had branded the other side as "opportunists." The facts were that few of us knew exactly where we were at. Some of us did know, however, that the Constitution held us to certain definite lines of action. It always looked to me as though the rank and file members tried and were expected to live up to the Constitution, while the leaders thought it their privilege to override it.

None of us had much knowledge of the international movement. Morris Hilquit and Kate Richard O'Hare were the only two that had been over and reported back, so that the youth had little opportunity to know anything about their international relationship in the class war. Not until the Communist party came into existence was there any practical attempt to establish schools under party control.

Walter Thomas Mills and others sounded the slogan, "America for Americans." They insisted that "foreign influence" was not good for the American socialist party and the young people's organizations. He as you know was one of the private school leaders. He did, however, do much to break down a lot of religious superstition and started many of the youth studying their socialism from scientific books.

The world events leading up to the war, the crisis in the party between the forces of Harriman on one side and Bill Haywood on the other, the breakdown of campaigns and colonies were practical lessons to many, and, as I have said before, many of the comrades and the children are now in the movement doing good work.

(To Be Continued)

World Issues

DIFFICULTIES OF ENGLAND, JAPAN GROW

Reaction in Trouble While Spain is Winning

Spain is a focal point for two world-wide trends: Fascism and Democracy—Peace Against War. It would appear that fascism is having difficulties with its focusing, and not all of the reasons are to be sought in Spain itself.

When you consider that fascism is only the most open and flagrant expression of reactionary tendencies that are powerful in all capitalist countries, stop also to consider what is engaging the attention of reaction elsewhere.

Uprise in All Imperialist Strongholds

Japan in the past has chosen moments of upheaval elsewhere to extend its dominion of China by military conquest and political coup. Recent setting up of a new puppet state in inner Mongolia was no exception, but simultaneously comes the disclosure that its puppet state of Manchukuo has in recent months been challenged as never before by armed struggles of the Manchurian people.

Challenge to the militarist cliques who establish Japan's foreign policy in disregard of all criticism became so strong that the emperor dissolved the parliament. . . . There is strong reason to believe that militarists' resentment of anything but a rubber-stamp parliament may lead to an attempt to suppress or disregard it altogether. Manchurians Hit At Japan

One thing which above all else marks the failure of the Japanese military policy in China is the growing unity of the Chinese people, including at least partial capitulation of Chiang Kai Shek to the demands to end civil war and unite against the common foe.

The Japanese policy heretofore has been: political disruption in China, coupled with force from without. Their remedy now is: more force from without to fill the breach caused by the failure of political disruption.

But the cost is mounting, and the Manchukuoan incidents reveal it is bound to mount higher. The resentment of the Japanese people is beginning to have a strong reflection in parliament.

Britain Has Grief From An Old Score

British reaction was confronted at the start of the invasion of Spain with two very distasteful propositions: allow Mussolini to be defeated in the Mediterranean and display the impotence of fascism, or help him on the sly and dicker with him over the division of the spoils of Mediterranean power.

Mussolini's latest boasts in North Africa indicated that he would demand more than they calculated, and if this were not enough to be embarrassing, the situation now arising in India is.

For India has been the colonial gold mine surpassing all others. It is nothing for British capital to draw 20 to 30 per cent interest out of the textile mills of Madras, Bombay, or Calcutta. It is possible because the Indian

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JAPAN TROOPS ASSAULTED BY MANCHURIANS

Widespread Revolt is Revealed After Outbreak

TOKYO — Twenty Japanese soldiers were killed in a clash between Manchurian guerrilla troops fighting against the Japanese puppet government of Manchukuo, bringing out the revelation by the Japanese government that similar incidents had occurred months ago and news of them suppressed.

The Japanese government's announcement that these previous outbreaks constituted a widespread revolutionary plot that had been stamped out came simultaneously with the announcement of the new outbreak.

All indications were that the latest outbreaks constituted the most serious threat to date against the Japanese rule in the old Chinese northeastern provinces, where Japan has had an opportunity to "prove" its interest in the welfare of the Chinese people since the invasion in 1931.

The announcement of the outbreak, in a communication from the Manchukuo government at Hsinking charged that the Communist Party of China organized and led the revolt.

Do your part to fulfill the WESTERN WORKER drive for \$12,000.

people have no civil rights with which to defend wage levels.

The Congress Party, calling for liberation from Great Britain, won sweeping majorities in the six major provinces out of eleven in all. The British mailed fist in a kid glove has handled such situations before. This one didn't run true to form. Instead of taking office under a constitution whereby British governors retain a veto power, the Congress Party voted to decline such responsibility.

Simple, it would seem. But it amounts to this: England is being denied a majority government that will rubber stamp its decrees. Its method has been to give a semblance of democracy while retaining final authority on all strategic questions. England still holds the whip hand in the name of the majority of the electorate.

This makes a great deal of difference. The prospects lean heavily toward a new rise of anti-British struggle in British imperialism's richest and most exploited preserve.

While Democracy Gains in Spain

This is not to dwell upon the more immediate difficulties of reaction, nearer to the focus of the struggle in Spain.

Let the news columns indicate how the unity of international fascism is in grave danger of giving away before the quarrels of Germany, Italy and England with each other, and before the grievance of the Italian, German and Moorish soldiers who have been duped into a war which is none of theirs, either in victory or defeat.

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American Friends of Soviet Union presents General Victor A. Yakhontoff, Dreamland Auditorium, Wed., April 28th.

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"L. A. 100% Union" Slogan at C.P. Meet

LOS ANGELES—Adopting as its main slogan: "Make Los Angeles a 100 per cent Union Town," the Los Angeles County Communist Party held its annual convention Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28, with close to 700 people attending the opening session.

Opened Saturday evening with the singing of the International, the 400 delegates and 300 visitors heard Bill Schneiderman, California State Secretary of the Communist Party, and Betty Gannett, outgoing Los Angeles County Organizer, discuss the current labor and political trends and the problems facing the party on a national and local scale.

Paul Cline, from New York, was elected by acclamation at the closing hour of the convention, Sunday night, as the new County Organizer. Also elected was the new County Committee, consisting of twenty-one leading comrades in the county.

By a vote of acclamation, Pettis Perry, Negro comrade and organizer of the Goodyear Section, was elected chairman of the opening session. Unanimously the meeting chose the following internationally prominent figures as the honorary presidium: Earl Browder, William Foster, James Ford, Joseph Stalin, Largo Caballero, Jose Diaz, Carlos Prestes, and Ernst Thaelman.

A True Cross Section

More than ever before in the history of the Communist Party in Los Angeles, the Convention represented truly a cross section of the working people. Of special significance was the fine type of youth that comprised the delegates from the Young Communist League. There was an overwhelming majority of American-born delegates.

In line with the fervent progressive trend of the American people, so also was the tone of enthusiasm which carried through the various phases of the Convention on scheduled time—ending promptly at the time designated by the agenda.

Main Tasks

Schneiderman, in his talk Saturday evening, stressed four main tasks that lie before the party: the building of a strong People's Front movement in the United States to defeat reaction; the maintenance of unity within the ranks of labor and the organization of the unorganized; the struggle for peace, against fascism—the support of Spain; and the building of the party.

Bringing the tasks outlined by Schneiderman down to Los Angeles comrade, Comrade Gannett dealt with the movement toward independent progressive political action, as evidenced by the strong progressive states entered during the municipal election campaign.

Special emphasis was laid on the organization of unorganized workers in Los Angeles and on the need for constant work against any split between CIO and AFL forces in the city's labor movement.

Discusses Experiences

At the Sunday session of the convention, splendid enthusiasm was shown by the delegates who entered into the general discussion. Centering about the experiences during the past year, the discussion demonstrated clear and accurate criticism of the weaknesses and achievements of the work of the units and sec-

DOUGLAS CO. UNION UNDER FALSE COLORS

It's Trying to Look Just Like a Real Trade Union

SANTA MONICA—Obviously sponsored by Donald Douglas a small group of company fakers have inaugurated a change in the Douglas company union by the simple procedure of establishing several high-salaried positions in what is shamelessly called the "Aircraft Workers Union."

The new "union" is no more a bona fide union than was the discredited Douglas Employees Association and is recognized as such by the majority of Douglas workers.

Organizers for the new company union are actively attempting to gain members during working hours by resorting to flattery, cigars and promising favors, and when these fail, resorting to intimidation.

Crudely imitating union newspapers, the same group is publishing a filthy little scab-sheet called "Union News." Naturally enough, it has not succeeded in misleading many of the workers, for to read any one of the publications exposes clearly its connection with Douglas.

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Spanish People Call for Medical Aid!

THE WORLD of democracy and friends of freedom everywhere rejoice over the news from Spain which tells of smashing victories by the Spanish Government armies on both the Guadalajara and Cordoba fronts.

The heroism and military strategy of the Spanish people's armies have thrown panic into the hearts of the fascists. Both Mussolini and Hitler have had to swallow bitter pills when the news of the rout of their troops reached them. To quote a Washington news commentator:

"What makes the war experts laugh is that both Mussolini and Hitler underestimated the ability of the loyalists. These defenders were little more than an unorganized mob at the start, but in six months they have learned a lot about warfare. They are now experienced veterans."

The creation of a centralized, disciplined, and efficient military machine in a short space of time was not due to any secret military development process—but is the inevitable result of the heroic efforts of an entire people fighting for its life and freedom against fascism. This is something that neither Mussolini nor Hitler can understand.

The war, however, is not over. The "non-intervention" committee, which has assigned to Italy and Germany, the chief aggressor nations, generous portions of the Spanish coast to "patrol," continues to play its farcical role. Both Hitler and Mussolini can continue to use airplanes to ship munitions to Franco, even over territory patrolled by other than the fascist nations! And the Spanish government forces are still in urgent need of aid from foes of fascism the world over. Especially acute is the need for medical supplies of all sorts: X-Ray plates, bandages, anti-tetanus serum, ambulances, etc.

Appreciation for the valiant blows being struck for world democracy by the people of Spain can best be shown by contributing generously to the medical aid fund through the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy.

Mussolini is seriously considering a plan to make it compulsory for every Italian family to have at least four children. Fascism must have something fertile, and it can't produce fertile brains.

Green Earns Open-Shoppers' Praise

WILLIAM GREEN'S bitter attack against sit-down strikes certainly caused no surprise among trade unionists. His entire record in the labor movement is one of determined opposition to militancy of any sort in the conduct of a strike.

In fact, not so long ago Green pledged the administration that the organized labor movement would not resort to the strike at all in seeking better working conditions and higher wages. But this "no-strike" pledge of Green's was followed shortly thereafter by a wave of strikes in marine, textile and other basic industries.

Not only does Green's wordy barrage against the sit-down strike consistently carry out his historic role in the labor movement—but it is especially caused by the success of the CIO in organizing the unorganized—a success which would not be possible without the use of such militancy as expressed by the sit-down form of strike action!

Naturally, Green's statement was followed by profuse praise from the National Association of Manufacturers. We would not be surprised to hear next that that association of open-shoppers has elected Green to an honorary presidency. We cannot do a better job of describing Green's action than to quote the words of John L. Lewis, who declared Green's statement was "characteristically cowardly and contemptible."

Green's role as a disrupter and splitter has been thoroughly exposed before the masses of militant workers. His statements are so much froth before the wind of organization sweeping across the country. He could use his time more productively by going down to the beach with a broom, and sweeping back the tides:

What's in a name? A temporary injunction against the National Labor Relations Board was issued in New Jersey by Judge Guy L. Fike.

Will S. F. Supervisors Act on California Youth Bill?

THE ACTION of the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County in endorsing the proposed California Youth Act is to be commended as a guide for other county boards. It is to the credit of John Anson Ford, supervisor who is the candidate for mayor supported by progressive labor and political groups, that it was he who made the motion for support. Hearings on this important measure are scheduled for next Friday, April 9th, before the State Assembly Committee of Welfare at Sacramento. As many groups and organizations as can do so should send spokesmen up to Sacramento to urge that the measure be favorably reported out of committee.

This is one of the most important of the measures introduced by the California People's Legislative Conference, and is sponsored by the Northern and Southern California Assemblies of Youth.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors still has time to express its views on the urgent needs of California youth. Endorsement by that body, and the memorializing of the Assembly urging adoption of the measure, would go a long way toward securing favorable action.

Scene on a small chicken ranch near Petaluma: Farmer's Wife: "Look, John, I've found a 10-cent piece in this chicken's craw."
Farmer: "Well, that's the first time I ever knew there was money in chickens!"

Buzzell's Splitting Tactics

THE ATTACK against the recent Douglas strike made by Buzzell, secretary of the Los Angeles Central Labor Council, in a statement contained in the March 26th issue of the L. A. Citizen, is not only vicious, but stupid as well.

Buzzell speaks of an "alleged" strike. In Buzzell's opinion, obviously, there was no strike; and further on he characterizes as "suckers" those thousands of militant workers who followed the leadership of the CIO in the "alleged" strike.

We wonder whether Mr. Buzzell would describe the five cents an hour increase won by the strike as only an "alleged" nickel an hour more; whether the two hours' pay each worker will get if he is called to work and then finds there is none for him to do, will be made in "alleged" money; whether the time and a half for overtime will also be paid in "alleged" money. And finally, we wonder whether the groceries this money will buy will be only "alleged" food.

Buzzell's statement that the publicity being given to the CIO is caused by the reactionaries' desire to widen the split in the labor movement is the pay-off. If any one thing stands out like a sore thumb in the CIO-AFL situation, it is the responsibility for splitting and disruption of unity that lies squarely on the shoulders of the executive council of the AFL!

Despite Buzzell's attacks, the CIO will be a major factor in the drive to organize Los Angeles. What does Buzzell say about the thousand workers who formed a lodge of the A. A. in the Columbia-Steel Mill, in Torrance—and a day later were recognized by the company?

"At least," say graft apologists, "our police have kept gangsterism out of San Francisco." True, there are no Al Capones or Dillingers around; the McDonough Bros. can't stand the competition.

How About an Embargo Against Italy and Germany?

APPROXIMATELY 80,000 Italian soldiers are in Spain, engaged in active war against the Spanish Republic.

Forty thousand German soldiers are in the armies of Franco.

German and Italian Generals compose the high military command of Franco's "Spanish" fascist army.

Can any sane person doubt that both Italy and Germany are at war?

Yet the U. S. State Department remains as silent as the grave on ordering an embargo against these two fascist powers! This should have been done long ago to carry out the terms of the "neutrality" legislation passed by Congress.

More and more people are beginning to wonder whether the State Department is not consciously aiding the fascist aggressors! Certainly Senator Key Pittman, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is playing the role of aide-de-camp to Franco, with his constant defense of Italian "volunteers!"

A movement to demand an embargo against the fascist aggressors must be launched and carried into Congress. Resolutions and letters should be sent by organizations and individuals, demanding such an embargo in the interests of world peace, and to take the United States out of the camp of those nations whose policies are an encouragement to fascist barbarism!

El Dorado County, California, lumber companies have forced employees to join the El Dorado Wooden Box Assn. to "promote the sale of wooden boxes." With such company union ideas and resultant starvation wages, it will be the lumber workers' families who will buy the wooden boxes.

Fascist Bombs Wreck a Madrid Nursery



FASCIST barbarism—another example of it in Spain. A children's nursery wrecked by bombs from a fascist plane. Loyalists never bomb residential areas of a city, many neutral eyewitnesses have reported. Fascists, with characteristic barbarism deliberately seek to strike terror by actions like that shown above.

Party in San Francisco Begins Work Among Youth

By Frank Spector
(Pre-YCL Convention Discussion Article)

The approaching 8th National Convention of the YCL affords the opportunity for riveting the party membership's attention to the ever vital problem—our party's work among the youth. I am taking the advantage the pre-convention discussion offers for pertinent comments upon our San Francisco's organization's work in this phase.

On Dec. 21st we wrote in our County Committee's directives to the membership "the County Committee is determined to, radically change the party's relation with the YCL—from almost complete indifference towards its problems to closest collaboration and helpfulness."

Moving in Right Direction
Have we begun moving in this direction? Yes, we have. Three months have passed since we undertook, in earnest, to make the party membership conscious of our party's obligation towards youth work and towards the YCL. What are our positive achievements?

We have definitely established a County Youth Committee that meets periodically twice a month. In turn this committee has established similar committees in the industrial, professional and Fillmore sections. Through these committees we were able to set up closer contact with the YCL.

While making efforts in organizational directions we have made a considerable beginning in arousing our membership's interest in youth and YCL problems. Thus, in the past period we devoted two meetings of the County Committee largely to discussions of youth problems. On both occasions these discussions were in preparation for a membership-wide discussion in branches and units of specific phases of youth problems.

YCL Convention
In the first instance it was the launching of our organization's plan for work among youth as well as the California Youth Act; in the second, which was held in the presence of all unit and branch organizers, the coming YCL convention. Significant of our improved relations with the YCL is that while during the first discussion held in the county committee we failed to attract to this meeting any of the YCL members, at our second meeting we had with us over a dozen most active YCL members in our city, who added materially to the discussion.

Our recently held county convention has real recognition to the problem of work among youth. This phase was dealt with by a special Youth Commission in which party and YCL members presented to the convention a series of concrete and realizable proposals, the adoption of which has helped much to clearly define our day-to-day tasks in youth work and to rivet the party's attention upon them. We can already count some tangible results out of such discussions. Outstanding among these was the aid our party extended to popularize and to make possible the success of the Northern California Youth Assembly. Good work was done in this phase by our trade union comrades who raised the question of the assembly in their union locals, winning over a number of them to send delegates and material help.

Difficulties Encountered
We still encounter serious difficulties in our work. Our major one is the slowness of organizational response of our lower party organization. Such an important section as the waterfront was not yet able to start its organized youth work despite the fact that the major portion of the YCL membership is on the waterfront. We have still to learn how to follow up our work and how to check up on the way our decisions are carried out.

While it is a step forward to have a half a dozen party comrades to engage themselves earnestly in youth work, it is obvious that we must draw in many more, especially in units and branches. We have not yet begun to solve our problems of aiding the YCL in developing trade union activities. There is still a tendency to encourage YCL members in trade unions to be inactive in YCL work. And finally there is still not enough close attention by the leadership to the work of the county youth committee.

Our immediate tasks are:

1. To aid the YCL in preparing and sending a good size delegation to the YCL convention.
2. To aid the young people of San Francisco in arousing mass support for California Youth Act, especially in connection with the forthcoming hearing on the Assembly Bill No. 1361 (California Youth Act) on April 9th, in California State Assembly. We must help in bringing about a deluge of demands for passage of this bill and for appearance at this hearing of delegations from trade unions and progressive organizations.

3. In the trade union field: Our trade union membership must become familiar with the problems of establishment of vocational training of youth among correct trade union principles. We must lend a really helping hand in the present development of a progressive sport movement. We must win over our young comrades in trade unions for active participation in the life of the YCL. In this connection our task is to aid the YCL in its effort to set up a well functioning industrial branch which, like the waterfront YCL branch, will include all the YCL'ers, members of "up-town" unions.

4. Our May Day preparations and activities should be carried on in close collaboration with the YCL, to assure the largest number of youth participants. In this connection our territorial branches and units should address in our party's name special appeals to the youth in their neighborhoods.
5. We have an unpardonable slow-up on recruiting into the YCL, since the close of the last membership drive. To help the YCL to recruit members into the YCL! We have done that during the drive—why not now? And finally—

6. Why not send a party comrade in our work among the youth, to the 8th National Convention of the YCL? I think this is a swell idea (not mine though). If 100 or so party comrades from all over the county, active in the party's youth work will attend the YCL convention we will go a long way in improving our work among the tolling and student youth of America and building the YCL. Let's discuss that!

Three months ago we only talked about starting work among the youth and building the YCL. Today we are already able to examine concrete work done. We made a fairly good

beginning. Our job is to use this beginning as a springboard for further and better work, for making the entire membership conscious of the vital phase of our party's life—work among the youth, America's brightest hope for the future.

L. A. County Convention

(Continued from Page 3)

Per Perry, reporter for the Negro caucus, pointed out the need for more work from the party among the Negro workers in the county.

Practical Approach
Summing up the entire Convention, Betty Gannett declared that the convention as a whole had been "characterized by a more serious approach, a more practical approach than previous conventions."

The general weakness, she pointed out, had been that no general line had been developed. She went on to demonstrate that the central task before the county must be the bringing together of the entire organized labor movement, the thousands of unorganized, and the middle classes toward a strong, united front to defeat fascism.

This task, and the all-important one of organizing the unorganized must carry on through the life of the units, she declared.

Several resolutions were adopted at the end of the Convention. All of them were enthusiastically and unanimously applauded. There were resolutions sending greetings to Ernst Thaelman, to the Spanish people, condemning Trotskyism and the Trotskyites, condemning the Criminal Syndicalism Act, and demanding the freedom of Tom Mooney.

Following the election of Paul Cline to the position of county organizer, a resolution thanking Betty Gannett for the work she had done during the time she was organizer, welcoming Cline as the new organizer, and proposing a banquet for Comrade Garnett, was overwhelmingly approved by the convention.

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You readers with short wave sets: Listen in and report to the Western Worker on what you hear.

MARCH-APRIL 'PARTY ORGANIZER'

By L. R.

The March-April issue of the Party Organizer makes its appearance in an attractive new format, with large, easily readable type. In form, as well as in contents, the Party Organizer has become an indispensable aid to Party members for guidance in carrying on their mass work.

The March-April issue is especially important for California Communists, since it contains the statement of the California State Membership Committee on the late recruiting drive and its lessons, as well as an article by Comrade Powell, Contra Costa County Organizer, on building the Party in that important in-

dustrial center. Powell's article illustrates the use to which the Western Worker can be put in building the Party.

Other articles of importance are the statement of the Party on May Day, and the resolutions adopted by a recent conference of District Organizers on building the Party and press. The latter, especially, should be closely studied by all Party units as a guide in the recently launched Western Worker circulation drive.

Every member of the Party is urged to buy a copy of the Party Organizer immediately and put its practical suggestions to use in his inner Party and mass work.

Red-Baiting Flops Against J. A. Ford

LOS ANGELES — Attempting to confuse the issues before the voters, local political gangsters, dragged out the "red herring" last Monday when strips of paper reading "Vote Communist—John Anson Ford for Mayor," were scattered over the city from airplanes.

Attacked as was F.D.R. Recognizing such attacks help rather than injure his campaign, Ford declared:

"I find I am being attacked in the identical manner that Franklin Roosevelt and Harlan Palmer were attacked, and I am not worried. Indeed, I believe these eleventh hour attacks are helping my campaign."

The charge being made by the Shaw forces that I am a Communist, or have affiliation with Communists, is a falsehood, a ludicrous falsehood. In Jewish neighborhoods, the same opposition is circulating the false charge that I am against the Jews and for the Nazis. In the Negro districts, these same short-sighted opponents are circulating the false rumor that I am a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

Falsehoods Flop
"My charge against the Shaw

administration of pay-offs, and a multitude of illegal special privileges, large and small, appears to be receiving wide acceptance."

Paul Cline, newly elected county organizer of the Communist Party, termed the fake strips of paper as "fraudulent material issued by reactionary political interests."

C.P. Statement on Ford
"The position of the Communist Party in relation to Mr. Ford in the coming elections is clearly stated in the election leaflet issued recently by the Communist Party," declared Cline. This leaflet read:

"John Anson Ford is the candidate of the progressive forces in the city. He is also supported by many trade unionists. While the Communist Party has many criticisms to level against Mr. Ford, it urges the people of Los Angeles to vote for him—to defeat Shaw."

Despite underhanded opposition from reactionaries, Ford's campaign is going ahead full swing with a strong chance to lead Shaw in the Tuesday primaries, stated his campaign headquarters in the Angelus Hotel, 4th and Spring Sts.

A Question and Reply on the U. S. Supreme Court

By Organizer Unit A-10, Communist Party

LOS ANGELES — Our Communist Party unit had a discussion about the U. S. Supreme Court, and when I took the floor and had finished, they told me to send my ideas to the Western Worker. I thought it was good, though I thought it was only good conversation. I thought they might forget but not so. I must write, or else.

Here is my argument. We need the Supreme Court just as a dog needs fleas. Yet, we should have a Supreme Court. This kind of logic sounds foolish but it is not.

Every Congress, when it is setting up its organization of committees to handle different problems, would also set up a Supreme Court, made up of every faction of the Congress in both houses. This would cause all of the members of both houses to study the constitution whether he is on the Supreme Court or not, and all the legislation should be considered from the human standpoint and not from the point of private profit or privilege.

This court should die at the end of the Congress, or as soon as all bills have been considered. Where appeals are made, it would come before a court set up by Congress either to settle the case from a human standpoint or send it to the People's Court set up by the next Congress. Comrades, I am very sick, have been for several weeks, and I hope some of the rewrite boys will make Unit A-10 feel that it has done good by the discussion.

ANSWER: The issue now before the American people is curbing the Supreme Court. The Communist Party supports President Roosevelt's program to accomplish this, and rallies all possible support to this program as

Just Off the Press!

The Pacific Coast Maritime Strike

By WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN

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Around the League

By BEN DOBBS
Administrative Secretary California Young Communist League.

Good Work
Congratulations, S. F. County Committee of the YCL, for the splendid dance and the work of your dance committee. Special commendation goes to Ernie, Ethel, Lee, and others.

Anniversary

This month we celebrate the 15th anniversary of the YCL. These 15 years have seen a tremendous change in the workers' movement—and the YCL played no small part in making this change. A change that is showing itself in the tremendous drive towards organizing the unorganized, the movement towards a Farmer-Labor Party, the change from a small propaganda group to a YCL of 12,000 members, with working connections with many sections of American youth, wide influence among them, and taking part in the life of America.

We should celebrate this birthday as a joyous event that marks a new turning point in our League, by holding huge send-off affairs for the elected delegates to the National Convention. The state executive committee has called on all county committees to organize the best affairs ever held. The Communist Party, through the state executive committee, has called on its sections to give support. What's done and how's it going?

New York or Bust?

No kidding, my good lads and lassies of the YCL, the BUST should be spelled in capital letters unless we all get off the dime in the next two weeks in raising the necessary money for transportation. It will cost at least \$50 a delegate. We have received the following:

Lincoln Steffens Branch (UC) \$28.85
Spirit of '76 Branch (SF) 20.06
Waterfront Branch (SF) 25.67
Another Branch (SF) 12.52
L. A. has not turned in anything—my, it's a long walk to New York.

Let's Get Some More!

Wouldn't it be swell if we could give a present to Gil Green from the California YCL? What shall it be? WE GOT IT! Some more new recruits from California! We are getting out a letter that we want each Comrade to fill out, with the name of a recruit, sign, and send to Comrade Green. Wouldn't it be something if we could send about 200 of them with our delegation. On recruiting—the dime that we bet on the Stanford gang is in great danger. UC is winning the Big Game. Score: UC 2, Stanford 0. Can one of the Stanford people loan us a dime?

Here and There

Dorothy is improving rapidly after her appendectomy and is now at home. Los Angeles comrades should visit her and bring fruit, which they themselves can eat.

It was good to see Jack, Roy, Lou, and others that came up from Los Angeles a few days ago. Glad to know they are alive. You can't tell by the way they are raising money to send convention delegates, or how they pay their bills to continue this Youth page.

A couple of weeks ago a group of specially invited YCLers from the Leo Gallagher Branch attended the formal installation banquet and dance of one of the largest Filipino organizations in California active in organizing agricultural workers. Good luck, Filipino brothers!

You ought to see our office. Mary got busy and raised the necessary kale and got two comrades, Tommy and Matt, to help her paint it.

Curriculum Avoids Today's Problems

OAKLAND—Laying the blame for the condition on the school curriculum, not the teacher, Dr. Irving H. Melbo of Oakland's Department of Instruction and Curriculum, charged that the average high school senior knows less about American life since the World War than he does of Colonial conditions.

Dr. Melbo's survey, covering more than 7,000 people in 40 California towns, claimed that high schools civics and history courses place too much emphasis on the past and not enough on current issues and problems.

PEACE STRIKE PLAN MADE IN 15 COLLEGES

Answer National Call For Demonstration On April 22

LOS ANGELES—Students of at least 15 Southern California colleges will strike as a peace demonstration at 11 a. m. on April 22 in response to a call sent out by all thirteen leading student organizations in America.

Plans for the strike in L. A. were made with the formation of a United Student Peace Committee, which has the support of the Christian Youth Council, the Christian Youth Coordinating Committee, the Student YWCA and other organizations.

Signers of the strike call included the American Student Union, the Committee on Militarism in Education, the Emergency Peace Campaign, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Foreign Policy Association, the United Christian Youth Movement, the League of Nations Association, the National Council of Methodist Youth, the student YM and YWCA, the National Student Federation of America and the War Resisters League.

The American Student Union High School Section simultaneously issued a call for student controlled peace assemblies in high schools, with the aim of setting up on-campus peace councils.

Belmont High School in Los Angeles led preparations with the announcement of a two week peace symposium preceding April 22, a debate a week before the strike, culminating in an auditorium meeting on the peace day with a movie and a personal appearance by Frederic March.

Northern Colleges marked time over Easter vacation and exam period.

Future of Boxing

Jack Dempsey stated last week that he had come to the conclusion that "unless boxing gets centralized federal control, boxing will continue to degenerate until it reaches a lower level than wrestling."

Amazement
BOSTON, Mass.—Seven Harvard students, arrested for distributing union leaflets in front of a rubber plant, gasped when the judge released them and termed their action as serving a "laudable and legal cause."

YOUNG SPANIARDS RALLY
LOS ANGELES—Two hundred young Spanish people in the Woodside district have formed a club around the defense of Spanish democracy.

Among the many activities they carry on a monthly dance, with the proceeds going to the aid of Spain.

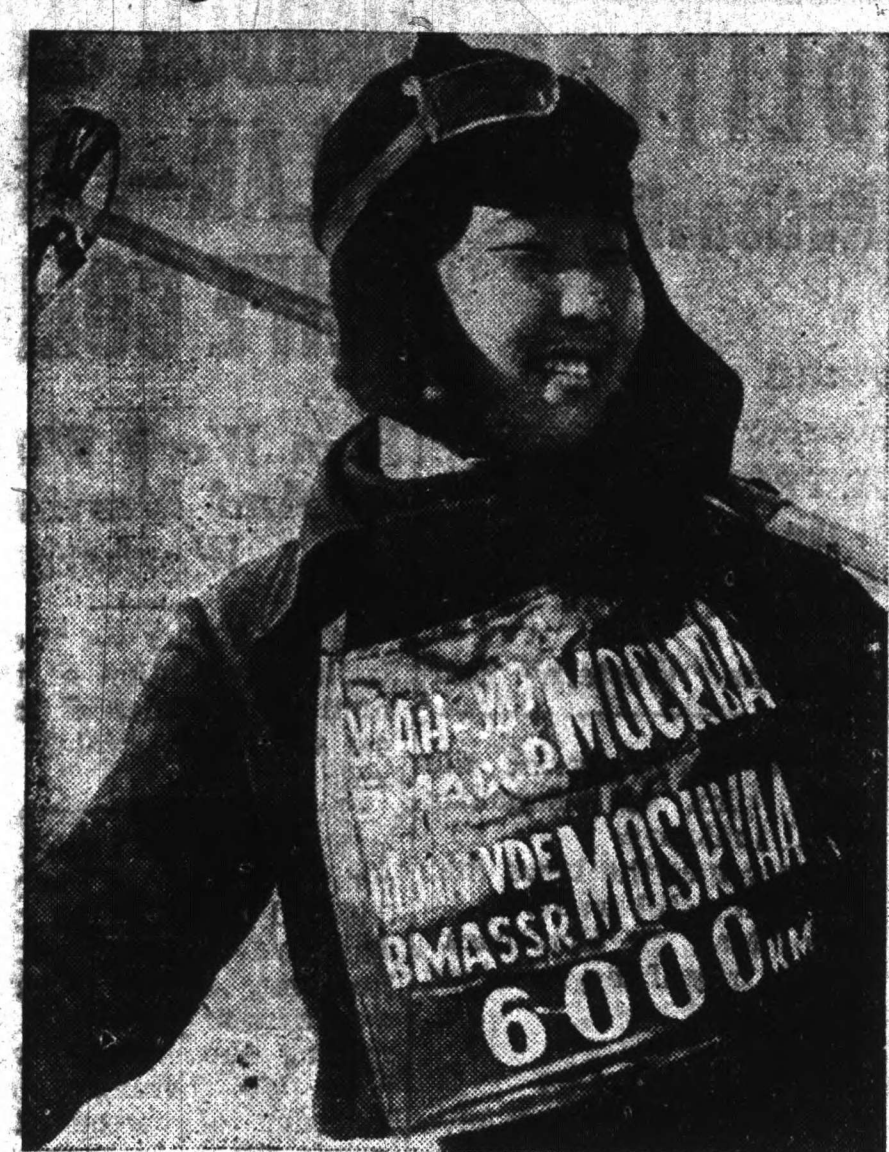
That means that the Union Recreation Center man will represent the West Coast in the finals at Boston.

When the maritime unions won their strike they made a big name for labor. And their boxing win certainly adds to their reputation. How do you think labor's stock will stand with John Q. Public if union sportsmen continue to sweep their fields?

I know that DeLuca himself has a following of hundreds of kids in the Mission district in San Francisco. Will these kids grow up to be loyal union men or not?

No Grass Underfoot in Sacramento
A faithful correspondent from Sacramento writes to let us know

A Long Walk—China to Moscow



MARUSYA KHAHALOVA, 18 years old, one of the five Mongolian girls who traveled on skis 4000 miles, from Chinese border to Moscow. These are typical pioneers of the new Soviet youth.

New Life in League for 8th Convention

(Editorial)

FROM LOS ANGELES to Eureka a new spirit has been sweeping the Young Communist League for the past month and a half.

It was the period of discussion before the 8th national convention of the Young Communist League, when the floor was thrown open for any and all criticisms and suggestions.

Ingenuity! The Lincoln Steffens Branch at the University of California noted that meetings were dull, but the bull sessions at the Jolly Roger restaurant later were swell. So they rigged up tables, served coffee, had girl waitresses—duplicated the Jolly Roger atmosphere at their branch meeting and, presto!—the liveliest discussion in years.

Results! The Tom Mooney Branch of San Francisco had been moving at the pace of a snail for months. They read Gil Green's article in the February Communist, felt deeply all he said about making the YCL an organization which would give its members a life with a purpose. And they speedily organized a chorus, a drama group, an athletic group, a fine arts group, a trade union group which have put new life in the branch.

Novelty! The discussion in the Waterfront Branch of the YCL showed that the members were not being given the thing they were interested in—serious education about serious trade union problems. So they put their heads together and evolved a Trade Union Generalship Class for the main feature of each branch meeting.

Now April begins—the last lap on the stretch to the national convention on May 2. The discussion period is not over—the branches still have not yet discussed the problems of national policy outlined in Gil Green's speech, they have only begun to incorporate all their ideas into resolutions to be sent to New York. April should open the nominations for branch delegates to the convention. The whole purpose of the convention is to cement the YCL's ties with the majority of young people. No branches have yet involved non-Communist youth and their leaders in the discussion on how to improve the work of the League.

Entering the last lap—let's turn our attention now to discussing and passing resolutions on national policies—to the election of delegates after a hot competitive campaign—to involving non-Communist youth in the pre-convention discussion!

The Banner of Unionism Flying Higher in Sports

By LEFTY

Ordinarily I don't believe all I read in the papers. But this time, after much checking up, I advise you to take their word for it. Last week, the San Francisco Chronicle had a leading headline on its front sports page, "Union Recreation Center Steals Show at Amateur Bouts." Brother Lloyd DeLuca, carrying the Union Recreation Center colors in the Pacific Coast elimination bouts for the national finals of the Amateur Athletic Association boxing tournament, shook the rafters of Dreamland Auditorium when he socked out a victory in the 180-pound class.

That means that the Union Recreation Center man will represent the West Coast in the finals at Boston.

When the maritime unions won their strike they made a big name for labor. And their boxing win certainly adds to their reputation. How do you think labor's stock will stand with John Q. Public if union sportsmen continue to sweep their fields?

that the unions up there in the hub of the gold rush won't stand for no Frisco or New York outfit getting the jump on them. So the ILA Warehousemen's Union of the capital city have gone down the line for a basketball team.

Frisco counters with a sharp jab when news comes in on horseback that the American Federation of Government Employees now boasts of a string of hoopers too. It looks like an epidemic of sumptin' or other.

I don't know whether Los Angeles is just sleeping in the sun on the matter of sports, or whether it's just our correspondents who aren't awake. But there ain't hide nor hair of a union sports movement in the Southland according to our knowledge. If San Francisco keeps up its pace (oops, what's that you say, the Cannery and Preserve Workers' Union is planning a team too?) little Lefty can't see why we shouldn't have a sports conference like they had in New York, to get the teams together, perhaps form a League.

They Practiced What They Preached

Now here is something for the book! This sports stuff has gone so far in the New York Young Communist League that the functionaries, mind you—the educational director, a few

county organizers and all of the biggest—even they have a basketball team now. Yessir, last week the District Functionaries of the YCL played the District Functionaries of the International Workers Order. They puffed and they huffed and out came the final score in favor of the YCL Functionaries. It is rumored that the score came down by a two-hour report from a county organizer, the center got tangled up in an educational outline and the basket itself just got down on its knees and grabbed for the ball at a suggestion from the District Organizer.

Sports Deserve a Better Sponsor

Ever hear one of them pot-bellied boys pick up a Western Worker and snort, "Propagandy, that's what it is, propagandy." That was my impression of a story in the San Francisco News.

It is said that fourteen big companies will enter teams in the City Recreation Department's Industrial Baseball League. Some of the biggest firms in town are entered. Anglo-California Bank, Columbia Steel, Metropolitan Life Insurance, Standard Oil are a few. Propagandy, that's what it is. Propagandy for a 100 per cent union sports movement to take the wind out of the Industrial Association's sails.

YOUTH ACT IS SUPPORTED BY BYPU OF CAL.

Convention Also on Record Upholding Peace Strike

Close to two thousand delegates to the California Convention of the Baptist Young People's Union met at Redlands University, March 12, 13, and 14 and endorsed the California Youth Act, the April 22 Student Peace Strike and declared their organization for a social order in which "cooperation takes the place of profit."

For More Discussion
The conference urged that church forums be formed to discuss social problems, that special attention be paid to seeking out violations of minimum wage and child labor laws.

The delegates registered dissatisfaction at the fact that many churches are placing "Christian ethics secondary to gaining the favor of a few reactionary groups."

Other resolutions adopted included a denunciation of William Randolph Hearst and a request for legislation which would forbid injunctions against unions in labor disputes.

YCL FIVE TAKES FIRST DEFEAT, LEADS LEAGUE

Vikings Defeated Despite New Star Players

LOS ANGELES—The Renaissance YCL basketball team still led the South Central League, despite an upset March, when the league leaders bowed for the first time to the cellar Toberman Eagles by a score of 50-40.

The week before, the YCL boys had knocked predictions into a cocked hat with a 33-27 win over the Vikings, revamped for the occasion by the addition of Jefferson and Reese High School and Compton J.C. stars.

The defeat by the Tobermans came in the last two minutes of play with an eighteen-point rally.

The YCLers lead their nearest rivals in club standing, the Neighborhood Bears by two games. The Vikings follow with Bertheada Presbyterian in fourth place, the Crusaders in fifth and the Toberman Eagles trailing at the bottom of the heap.

YCL Girls' Team to Play Catholic Girls

NEW YORK—Sports are a key to cooperation among youth groups! This was proved again when the Young Communist League of New York had its first opportunity to meet young Catholic groups—on the basketball court.

The All-Star YCL girls' team has just scheduled a two-game series with the St. Joseph's Catholic Club, champion girls' parochial school team. One game will be played at the St. Joseph's home court in the Catholic Club.

Youth Group Puts Out Illustrated Magazine on Spain

A message from Fernando De Los Rios, Spain's ambassador to America, pictures of bombs bursting in Madrid's Times Square, youth battalions, fighting in the Guadarrama mountains, demonstrations in New York, Paris, Moscow, London, war heroes—are the features of a new 20-page picture magazine "Spain" just issued by the United Youth Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy. Single copies or bundle order available at 121 Haight Street, San Francisco at 10 cents.

Vital Cause

From New York to Seattle, young people are doing it! A 290-pound Cornell freshman is "sitting down" in the easy chair of the Kappa Gamma Psi fraternity at Ithica, N. Y., to protest against the fraternity initiating paddling.

California YCLers! The Daily Worker of Monday, March 29, carries a pre-convention article on Educational Work in California. Have you bought your copy yet?

4000 SCHOOL KIDS IN NEED

Four thousand San Francisco school children are in need of supplemental feeding, Health Director J. C. Geiger declared.

"The situation is steadily growing worse," Dr. Geiger said. "While the Health Department is spending \$10,000 annually to supply food, principally milk, to school children, it is far from answering the real necessity in our schools."

CONVENTION OF YCL OPENS ON MAY 2 IN N. Y.

Foster, Browder Are Among Speakers of Opening Session

Youth delegates from 48 states of the union, representing a national membership of 13,000, will convene in New York City's largest indoor arena, Madison Square, on May 2nd, for the opening session of the 8th National Convention of the Young Communist League of America.

Among the chief highlights of the convention proceedings will be the adoption of a Constitution and a Program of Action on the following key issues: Building the front of the young generation, for jobs, peace and against war and fascism, winning the youth to the trade unions, building and transforming the Young Communist League into a mass organization. The struggle of the youth against war and fascism will occupy a significant share of the convention proceedings.

Opening Speakers

Prominent trade unionists and leading party and YCL figures will address the Garden Youth Convention. They include William Foster, chairman of the Central Committee, Communist Party, U.S.A.; Earl Browder, Gen'l. Secy. of the Communist Party, U.S.A.; Gil Green, Nat'l Secy. Young Communist League of America; Angelo Herndon, chairman of the National Committee, YCL; Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, leader of the famous 1912, 1926 textile strikes, and John Little, State Secy. of the New York Young Communist League.

Anti-Picket Repeal Front, Oakland

BERKELEY—Another nail was driven into the coffin of anti-picketing laws by youth activity when the cases against 19 University of California American Students Union members cases were dismissed by Police Judge Oliver Youngs in Berkeley.

The cases arose last September when students and Warehousemen's Union pickets were arrested on charges of violation of the Berkeley picketing ordinance in the Woolworth strike.

Two students were acquitted immediately, three convicted, and four faced "hung" juries. On an appeal to the court of Superior Judge Leon Gray, the convictions were reversed on grounds that peaceful picketing was lawful.

The victory recalled to trade unionists the service students did for organized labor in 1935 when the Berkeley anti-leaflet distribution ordinance was made a dead letter by mass violation.

Go To War?

Will "Johnny get his gun" and fight in the next war?

To answer this question, a peace ballot will be distributed April 8 to college students throughout the country by the National Student Federation of America.

CHILDREN HELP

LOS ANGELES—Twelve and thirteen-year-old children are doing their bit to aid their Spanish brothers and sisters. They have organized a sewing circle and make bandages to be sent abroad.

WHAT YOUTH WILL FIGHT FOR AT SACRAMENTO HEARINGS APR. 8, 9

Provisions of the California Youth Act in Brief:
Democratic Youth Commission with three union men, one racial minority representative, three youth, one student.
\$30 monthly minimum for high school students.
\$20 monthly minimum for college students.

500 Delegates Will Attend Hearings on Youth Act for Cal.

Five hundred young people from all parts of the State, representing all types of organizations are expected to converge at Sacramento, April 8 and 9, for hearings before the Assembly Committee of Social Welfare as the second great step in the movement for passage of the California Youth Act.

Organized by the Northern and California Assemblies of Youth, bodies called together to draft the California Youth Act, the pilgrimage will arrive in Sacramento Thursday, April 8.

Mayor to Speak
At a mass meeting that evening, Mayor Frank Ferguson of Sacramento, together with leading officials in the state department of education, will speak.

The Assembly Committee on Social Welfare will convene for the hearings on the morning of April 9. Tentative plans provide that the hearing will be held in the Assembly chambers. It is expected that the regular committee rooms will be too small for the delegation. Leaders of youth organizations and experts on youth problems will present testimony aiming to prove the need for the California Youth Act.

Delegates to Visit Merriam

That afternoon, the delegates will visit Governor Merriam, seeking his approval of their bill, local assemblymen and senators.

Later in the afternoon there will be a joint session of the executive committees of the Northern and Southern California Assemblies of Youth, together with legislators and attorneys, to plan next steps in the campaign.

PIONEERS MEET WITH ADVERSITY

Covered Wagon Was a Hit, Now on Way Home

The sign scrawled across the canvas on the side of the Covered Wagon said: "Washington or Bust—American Youth Act or We're Busted." It was the California delegation to the Pilgrimage of Youth in Washington, D. C. The sign was right. They got to Washington. And then the trouble began. First of all, the last issue of the Champion of Youth printed the picture of the caravan over a caption: Washington State Delegation.

As if that wasn't enough to dismay the pioneers after their fifteen flat tires on the cross-country trip, rumors are now going the rounds of New York that "I swear, I saw it with my own eyes. The Covered Wagon had a Washington, D. C. license plate on it. It must be a phoney."

Two pilgrims fell by the wayside, enchanted by the attractions of New York City, where they decided to take up their home.

The rest took off for a barnstorming tour across the map and were heard from last in Oklahoma City. But the Covered Wagon was THE feature of the pilgrimage.

Epworth League O.K.'s Youth Act

Endorsement of the California Youth Act and the Student Peace Strike on April 22 featured the Los Angeles Regional Conference of the Epworth League, March 13 and 14, at Pacific Palisades.

Representatives from the whole southwest region, including Arizona and Nevada, heard Dr. Bollinger, director of the Wesley Foundation stress the importance of Christian youth taking social action in a keynote speech.

Herb Meyers, California District Third (social-action) vice-chairman, and Mort Newman, Los Angeles social action chairman, presented the resolution for the California Youth Act.

DRIVE STARTS TO ORGANIZE IN CANNERIES

Committees Active as Canning Season Begins

As trucks and railroads poured the spring spinach crop into the canneries up and down the state, the drive for unionization of young canneries and agricultural workers pushed forward with meetings of workers at two more San Francisco canneries and the opening of negotiations with the employers at another firm.

The strike at the H.J. Heinz Co. in Berkeley remained firm but deadlocked. The San Francisco local opened negotiations with the Tea Garden Preserve Co., demanding 50c an hour minimum for women and 60c an hour minimum for men. Organizing drives were underway at Puritan Preserves and IXL Companies.

Organize in Santa Clara

The committee for agricultural organization, backed by the entire labor movement of Santa Clara County, moved ahead with the establishing of organizing committees in Sunnyvale, Mountainview and other cannerly towns of that area.

Meeting at the opening of the season, the state committee of the Young Communist League declared, "What the steel industry is in the east, agriculture is in California. About fifty per cent of the workers in agriculture are young people. Labor in California will not be organized till agriculture is organized. The youth of California will not be won for unionism till agriculture is unionized. We will have to do for the agricultural and cannerly workers, what the Young Communists in the east did for the steel workers."

Picnic for Spain

LOS ANGELES—The North American Youth Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy has announced a picnic to be held at Griffith's Park. Mass games, a treasure hunt, a moonlight hike, a trip to the Planetarium and a short play reading are planned to fill out the day's festivities. A tentative date of April 4th has been set.

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Los Angeles People Rallying Behind Platform of J. A. Ford

FORD OPPOSES SHAW HUMBURG IN L. A. RACE

'Western' Interviews People's Nominee For Mayor

LOS ANGELES — In sharp contrast to the humbug of incumbent Mayor Frank L. Shaw, who is running for re-election on the lie of "Every Promise Fulfilled," John Anson Ford, opposing Shaw outlined, a clear position on labor, unemployment and civil rights to a "Western" correspondent.

Under administration of Shaw and Police Chief Davis, free speech and free assembly have been trod under the heel of the "Red Squad," Ford declared.

"I would guarantee and protect the rights of minority political and religious groups and I would oppose any attempt to deprive them of their constitutional rights of free speech, free assembly and free press."

Recently, corrupt political interests, in an attempt to block his election, have spread rumors that Ford was once a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

He's Anti-Vigilante
"I have never belonged to any vigilante organization," said Ford, "and I deny the rumor that I once belonged to the Ku Klux Klan."

Ford pledged his complete support of the rights of labor to strike, picket and bargain collectively.

"I believe that labor is emerging into a new fundamental relationship with society, and that relationship must have a permanent place in our society," he said.

Sees Shaw as Strike-Breaker
"In reply to a question, Ford stated: 'I am opposed to strike-breaking.'"

"In much of its relationship to social and economic situations, such as strikes, the present police policy has been characterized by blundering bulldozing, and in some instances officers appear to have been subsidized by the very interests violently opposed to the laboring man and wholly unaware of his just cause."

"The administration of police force must be actuated by an honest, sympathetic understanding of broad social and economic issues which are now being sharply defined."

"Of importance to the unemployed workers was his statement that 'I am for the continuance and expansion of WPA with the setting up of WPA as an independent, semi-permanent institution.'"

For Housing Program
On the acute housing problem, Ford said:

"I believe that a housing program conceived and promoted by independent real estate interests might have gotten a great deal further in Los Angeles. I would support any housing program based on the needs of the people of Los Angeles."

Voicing the sentiments of the majority of the people, Ford declared: "I am opposed to Fascism and will do everything in my power to prevent the growth of Fascist movements in L. A."

Backs Spain Government
Ford said he would support any movement for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, and gave complete support to the California Youth Act. The fight for Tom Mooney also has his full support.

Asked about Spain, Ford said: "I am entirely in sympathy with the Loyalist government as the democratically organized government of the Spanish people."

With endorsement of such organization as Municipal League, Coordinating Council of Progressive Groups, Continuations Committee for United Political Action and United Youth Campaign Council, the campaign for Ford's election is meeting with strong enthusiastic response from L. A. citizens.

Headquarters are at the Angelus Hotel, 4th and Spring Sts., with branch offices throughout the city.

Oregon Progressive Political Meet Next Month in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Oregon Commonwealth Federation, counterpart of the larger and better-known Washington Commonwealth Federation, is calling a conference of all progressive organizations to decide whether there shall be an Oregon progressive party, to be held in Portland April 23 and 24.



HERE'S one of those lowest of the low—a scab in the 5 and 10 strike in New York. The girls won their sitdown strike, however!

Kill Fake 'Relief' Bills, People's Lobby Urges

SACRAMENTO—Defeat of Assembly Bills 1177 and 950, which would cut thousands of people off relief and would mean return in many counties from cash relief to "grocery baskets," is urged by the People's Lobby of the California People's Legislative Conference.

A section of A. B. 1177 provides that relief authorities can send unemployed workers into strike areas to scab, and another section would enforce a "pauper's oath" on all receiving relief. The bill also would give counties the legal right to deny relief to workers on strike.

A. B. 1177 is in the committee on Public Charities and Correction; A. B. 950, in Committee on Social Service and Welfare.

The People's Lobby urges that all unions and other progressive organizations, as well as individuals, contact these committees and insist that these bills be killed.

The People's Lobby further urged support of Assembly Bill 1879, as amended by the Progressive Social Welfare Plan, which would recognize and strengthen the State Dept. of Social Welfare, and would protect the taxpayer and the unemployed by specifying that the Social Welfare Board must include a representative of the organized unemployed.

People's Lobby of Minnesota Plans March on Capitol

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The People's Lobby of Minnesota is planning a march on the state capitol here on April 5, to assure passage of the progressive Farmer-Labor legislative program before the Legislature, and to defeat reactionary efforts to kill important progressive bills.

C. P. Letter to Socialist Convention

Asks United Fight on Reaction; Ousting Of Trotskyites

Calling for a united front in defense of the Spanish Republic and for organization of the unorganized, the Communist Party Central Committee last week sent the following letter, signed by William Z. Foster, chairman and Earl Browder, general secretary to the Socialist Party Convention in Chicago:

"We extend fraternal greetings to your special convention in the name of the Central Committee of our Party and the more than 50,000 members of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League."

Decisions of Deep Concern
"We, in common with all sincere progressives and revolutionary workers, are watching your convention with deep concern. We believe that all progressive forces in the country which are moving in the direction of a common fight against the forces of reaction, are vitally concerned about the decisions you will make."

"It is not necessary for us to state our views at length on the need for united action between the Socialist Party and our Party. We have stated them repeatedly. We addressed a letter to your National Executive Committee on this question last November. Since then, there have been many new and important developments which make united action more urgent, than ever."

Trotskyite Poisons Results
"But it is precisely in this period that it has been more difficult to carry forward united

OAKLAND CP DRIVES HARD IN ELECTIONS

Slogan Is 'Out With Strike - Breaking City Council'

OAKLAND — With the battle cry, "Out With the Strikebreaking City Council," the Communist Party launched an intense election drive here.

Herbert Schultz, well known to East Bay workers and progressive people, is the Party standard bearer for City Council, opposing the reactionary incumbent, De Paoli.

Support Veteran Unionist
Also back by the Party is Wm. Wilkerson, of the Union of Professional Workers. For Board of Education, the C.P. is supporting Vane V. Dart, Carpenters Union.

Dart, an old timer in the Oakland labor movement, has always fought for a progressive program in his union and Central Labor Council. Hundreds of workers have attended trade unionism classes he has conducted.

The present City Council, part and parcel of the Republican "Kelly machine," is notoriously reactionary. During the maritime strike, the council president (titular mayor) Wm. McCracken loudly denounced the strikers and sang the song of the shipowners—"arbitration."

Council Serves Bosses
When the Council received a communication from the United Auto Workers Union, denouncing brutality of a local police captain, it turned it over to the city manager without even reading it. When Chief Waldman sent Oakland police to attack workers in the city of Alameda, in violation of the city charter, the council did not so much as mention the fact.

This same council railroaded through the "Major Disaster Ordinance" without holding a single hearing, without allowing organized labor a chance to be heard.

Texas Workers' Kids Killed to Save Gas Bill—Excuse Given

NEW LONDON, Tex.—No attempt will be made to prosecute individuals for the school explosion and its tragic toll of 11 workers' children, here although evidence showed wealthy royalty-holders, the school board majority bought expensive athletic and scientific equipment, but not safe fuel.

"We wanted to save the gas bill," was the gist of testimony given.

LABOR PARTY VICTORY
SYDNEY, Australia—The Labor Party of Tasmania elected 20 out of 30 members of Parliament in the recent general elections.

Father Coughlin said he would never broadcast again, when the election results were announced; he's now back on the air with his pro-fascist program.

Wm. Lemke is one of the

LABOR AND POLITICS In California and Nationally

By John Broman

AT LEAST ONE U. S. SENATOR FROM CALIFORNIA has seen the people's handwriting on the wall and reconsidered an early stand opposing the plan to curb the autocratic Supreme Court.

J. M., of Pasadena, writes to inform the "Western" that a report that Senator McAdoo was opposing the President's plan was incorrect (San Francisco papers of about six weeks ago quoted McAdoo as attacking the plan), and stated:

"Let us give the Devil his dues. I am sure you must not be aware that Senator McAdoo recently gave a national radio broadcast favoring Roosevelt's court reorganization plan."

We're glad to hear that "the Devil" has bowed before the storm of public sentiment in California.

Raps McGroarty
J. M. also wrote:

"Your article in last issue concerning the reactionary-plus attitude of my Congressman, McGroarty, was mighty good."

"McGroarty has heard from me, and will hear again on the score of making his side known in the reactionary Republican L. A. Times."

McGroarty, a Democrat elected with Townsend pension movement support in the 11th District, wrote a long article in the L. A. Times attacking the plan to unpack Wall Street's Supreme Court. Workers and small farmers put McGroarty in office, and the more protests he hears from his constituents on this issue, the more this representative will learn that the will have to quit representing the Tories of the L. A. Times.

Fascists Still Active
The National Farm Holiday News reports that the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, who threatened to organize a million fascist storm-troopers during the 1936 election campaign, hasn't given up striking Hitler poses before the mirror.

The Rev. Smith is in New York busily trying to organize a "Committee of One Million," supposedly against "radicalism," and actually against the entire organized labor movement.

The Smith-Coughlin-Lemke outfit didn't quit stooging for Wall Street after their attempt to get Landon elected last November was knocked into a cocked hat; the whole outfit is just reorganizing along new lines, after their crushing defeat at the polls.

Father Coughlin said he would never broadcast again, when the election results were announced; he's now back on the air with his pro-fascist program.

Wm. Lemke is one of the

most active opponents of the President's plan to reorganize the federal judiciary.

And now comes the news that the Rev. Smith still wants to be America's "Man on Horseback" and is busy organizing nazi-type storm troops.

We Still Must Fight
Just as the fascists didn't give up the ghost for Wall Street because of any election defeat, so must labor and the small farmers and progressives generally realize they have just begun to fight fascism.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," said a revolutionary American two centuries ago.

The people must be eternally vigilant today, as never before, to defend every inch of the democratic gains which they have won in the course of years of stubborn struggle, and to fight to extend these gains. The fascist snake must be scotched wherever it appears.

Fighting fascism means for the workers and poor farmers to fight for their bread and butter today. It means organizing the unorganized workers, repealing laws that cripple labor, such as the California Criminal Syndicalism Act and anti-picketing ordinances, lifting the burden of taxation from the working people and placing it upon the rich, fighting on a thousand and one issues that are immediate needs for the people.

A fight along these lines means building a powerful Farmer-Labor Party, and means that Coughlin, Smith & Co. will not get to first base with their pro-Hitler program in the United States.

Pressure Forces House Action on Anti-Lynch Bills
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Sufficient House support to force House action on anti-lynching bills on April 12, has been secured here. A drive to require a House act was completed when 218 names were obtained to the Gavan anti-lynching bill, which provides fines against counties where lynchings occur or where a prisoner is forcibly removed by a mob for lynching. More than 50 anti-lynch bills have been introduced.

Program for United Action
"In order to meet the needs of the class struggle through joint action, we urge that your convention elect a committee to meet with a similar one of our Party to explore the possibility of united action on one or all of the following points:

"a) Mobilization of every form of aid for the defense of Spain; "b) Joint action in organizing the unorganized, and support of the wage demands of the workers, and of the demands of the unemployed;

"c) United action in support of the legislative demands of the masses; in curbing the dictatorial powers of the Supreme Court; in promoting the growth of the Farmer-Labor movement; and in furthering progressive legislation in Congress;

"d) United action in the struggle for Negro rights; building and extending the National Negro Congress movement;

"e) Joint action for the building and extension of the peace movement.

"We hope your convention will take the steps necessary to make it a powerful force for the building of a strong, united labor movement. We hope that your decisions will strengthen the struggles against war and Fascism, and that through our common experiences in joint action on an ever wider front, the time will come when we can, through a greater unity, lead the American masses to the final goal—socialism in our country!"

HARBOR SECT. PLAN--PARTY LIFE COLUMN

Plan Work With Oil And Maritime Workers

SAN PEDRO — The Harbor Section convention of the Communist Party adopted the following resolution, which reads in part:

"In evaluating our experience in the maritime strike, the convention judged the Party fulfilled faithfully and well our role as vanguard of the working class. However, certain organizational weaknesses prevented us from reaping the benefit we should have. We, therefore, determined in order to overcome the weaknesses shown in that strike, and in order to solidify the unity of the working class in the harbor and to lead them marching at the head of the People's Front here—on the following tasks to be accomplished in the period up to May 1:

Work Among Longshoremen
"1. The main link to accomplishing all our tasks in the harbor is establishment of a strong unit and fraction in the I.L.A. In this work we must use all available Party forces directly, through contacting individuals, selling literature, etc., and we must also use all possible indirect influences, through our positions in other marine unions, the fishing industry, and in the unemployed. The I.L.A. fraction will take as its main task the rallying of all progressives in the union around a progressive program."

2. We must stabilize our leadership in the seagoing crafts, Maritime Federation Council, and Central Labor Council.

3. Discrimination against Negroes on the waterfront can be fought most concretely by giving aid and leadership to the Cotton Compress Local. Moreover, this local, properly guided, can be the lever to move masses of Los Angeles Negro workers toward the trade unions and toward the Farmer-Labor Party.

Bring Party Into Open
"4. Our forces in the fishing industry must be better organized and equipped to become the decisive force in the San Pedro Central Labor Council."

5. Together with these efforts to move the masses of trade union members in the right direction, through fraction work, we must intensify our efforts to bring the face of the Party into the open in San Pedro. This means getting a hall where we can hold meetings, organizing a new members' street unit in the town, establishing regular street sales of the Western Worker, building our friendly organization, setting up adequate technical apparatus to get out unit leaflets regularly and the marine and oil bulletins — the "Port Light" and "The Oil Worker."

6. The good work begun in oil must not lag for lack of forces; therefore, the recruiting of oil workers must become the central task for our Party in Long Beach.

7. Additional influence on the oil industry can be brought to bear in Long Beach by organizing our forces in the light industries, into a trade union unit of temporary nature, to develop them as rapidly as possible into good trade unionists.

8. To mobilize the unemployed against starvation, our fractions in the Workers Alliance must be made to function and recruit; cooperation between the unemployed and the unions, especially in agriculture and the canneries, will strengthen both groups.

9. To insure correct organizational and political guidance of our Party, we are setting up a Section Committee to meet twice monthly, a bureau to meet weekly, a unit organizers meeting to be held alternate to the Section Committee.

New Leaders
"10. To begin development of personnel, we set a task of organizing a 'functionaries' class for six weeks, immediately after the convention."

11. We shall greet May Day with the revolutionary accomplishment of a membership with 150 paid up books!"

7-Months Old L. A. Garment Strike Won

LOS ANGELES—The 7-months old strike of 100 workers at the Rosenbloom garment plant, marked by frequent clashes, has been settled, with a 38 hour week and collective bargaining with the Amalgamated Clothing workers granted.

Court Curb Will Aid Higher Pay, Shorter Hours

"I should like to emphasize that nothing will do more in the long run to make easier the work of organizing the unorganized, of raising wages, and of shortening hours, than to GET THE FEDERAL COURT REFORM PROGRAM ADOPTED!"
—Executive Vice-President E. L. Oliver, at national convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

Support of Court Plan Pledged by Working People

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Visiting President Roosevelt, at the White House March 8, a delegation from the national convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League issued the following statement:

"Representing and speaking for the wage earners of America and their friends, through the instrumentality of Labor's Non-Partisan League, we have called upon the President to assure him that the working people of the country are with him to a man in his fight to reform the federal judiciary."

"The President said, in his Victory Dinner address, that court reform must be had NOW. We have just told him his interpretation of the needs of the nation coincides exactly with our own. We, too, want action NOW."

Labor Supports Plan
"Labor is rallying throughout the United States in support of the President's program to give us a federal judiciary that will expedite instead of block the will of the people and the needs of the people."

"Our delegates will go back into every Congressional district in America to see to it that members of Congress are told what the great masses of the people want. It is the business of Congress, we feel, to enact the wishes and the will of the people into law."

"We are going to work and we are going to get results. The most vital issue of our time must be settled NOW and settled right."

More Labor Aid For Alberti

LOS ANGELES—Henry J. Alberti was endorsed for city council from the 2nd district last week by another organization, Federated Voters of the Los Angeles Amusement Organizations, an organized labor group.

"The Federated Voters is the political arm of the Union Labor Amusement Organizations in the city and county of Los Angeles," wrote President Paul O. Paulson "and all of its affiliated local unions are sincere in their efforts to make your campaign a success."

Since the organization represents more than 75,000 votes, the Alberti campaign headquarters at 5540 Hollywood Blvd. considers the endorsement a signal gain.

Campaign Booming
The campaign for Alberti now has a flying squadron of speakers to visit all organizations in the district, and campaign volunteers visiting each voter. They are being met with enthusiasm and encouragement, campaign workers report.

Despite denial of a permit to hold a parade Monday evening, the campaign committee is going ahead with plans for the parade, confident the permit will be secured.

Alberti will speak over radio station WMTR Monday, April 5, 7:30 to 8 p.m. His union, Musicians 47, has donated a string ensemble for the program.

Jack B. Tenney, assemblyman, 46th district; Central Labor Council; Co-ordinating Council of Progressive Groups; End Poverty League; Workers Alliance; Leo Gallagher; J. W. Gillette; Dr. Floyd Seaman; Dr. E. P. Ryland; Youth Federation for United Political Action, and many others have endorsed him.

ASSEMBLY ASKS GOVERNOR FOR MOONEY PARDON

SACRAMENTO—In an Assembly vote of 42 to 27, Governor Merriam has been called upon to grant a full and immediate pardon to Tom Mooney.

The Assembly resolution is now before the Senate.

Argument for the pardon resolution was led by Assemblyman Richie of San Diego and Maloney of San Francisco.

'ARISTOCRAT' FUMES ABOUT COURT REFORM

But Southern People Force Governors To Back Plan

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representing the wealthy land-owning, mint julep-drinking "aristocracy" of the South, Senator Carter Glass ("of Virginia, huh!") picked up the cudgels of Wall Street last Monday to attack the federal judiciary reform plan in a nation-wide broadcast.

Like Hitler
Glass launched into a bitter tirade of fascist ideology, stating:

"With private property seized at will, with rebellion rampant against good order; with governments pleading with mobocracy instead of mastering it, we seem to have reached that period of peril which Gov. Roosevelt envisioned seven years ago."

Mass pressure of the workers and farmers of the South told heavily in favor of the Supreme Court curb plan, however, when four governors of southern states took to the radio to defend the President's plan. They were Bibb Graves of Alabama, Olin D. Johnson of South Carolina, E. D. Rivers of Georgia, and Richard W. Leche of Louisiana.

Pauline Koner Stars With Soviet Dances In L.A. Recital

LOS ANGELES—Demonstrating her belief there must be "healthy art for healthy ideas," Pauline Koner, noted New York dancer returned from the Soviet Union, presented a solo dance recital at the Biltmore Theater on March 25.

Presenting Soviet, Palestine, Oriental, Modern, and Spanish groups, Miss Koner excelled particularly in her Soviet, and Palestine dances, the two funereal satires, and in her last Spanish dance.

"Soviet workers like to dance," said Miss Koner at a reception given for her. She told of the great opportunities for the Soviet people really to enjoy and appreciate the dance.

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Political Prisoners Tell Of Riverside Jail—Candy Union Blocks Reactionary

WORKERS' CORRESPONDENCE

Yuma Sit-down Won—Grass Valley Vigilante Threat L. A. Union Hits Betrayal

RIVERSIDE JAIL IS 'CRAWLING,' TELL WORKERS

Frame-Up Victims in Description of Foul Bldg.

By a Worker Correspondent
SAN BERNARDINO—The following article is from two workers who recently served 45 days in Riverside City Jail for the frame-up charge of distributing leaflets:
Although still maintaining our innocence at a trial by a Fascist judge and jury of reactionaries, we were found guilty in 15 minutes. Witness after witness testified against us, and on their so-called testimony we were convicted.

Lots of Bugs
While incarcerated in that condemned building, the jail, we had lots to contend with—yes, a lot of bedbugs and cockroaches. Although we could see for ourselves that the building isn't a place for humans, our statement that it is condemned can be verified by one of the employees of the police department.

The visiting hours were 1 to 3 p. m. on Sundays, but when we began our sentence, the hours were reduced to minutes and only 10 minutes were allowed for two workers at a time. These workers were compelled to sign in a book before being allowed to see us.

But in spite of that cowardly rule, made by rats classing themselves as "Americans," our friends continued to visit us in large groups, and the taking of signatures was discontinued. So we know that mass pressure is a good weapon.

Foul Conditions
Referring back to unsanitary conditions, I will also expose the bedding. While we were there, the bedding was not washed or aired. The dirt and bugs accumulated day after day, and no effort was made by the officials to see that the filth was eliminated. The assistant police chief, Roy Thomas, is responsible for such conditions.

Visitors are never seen entering the jail to inspect it. On one occasion I recall they did have school children inspect the place, and this remark was heard by several of the inmates: "Gee, it stinks in here!" I guess the kids were glad to breathe fresh air once more.

The food had a lot to do with the scent. Many a sour "meal" was sent in there, and I witnessed several cases of inmates complaining of sickness.

Books Barred
Although we political prisoners were the only two who looked into the unbearable conditions, we found out for ourselves what is going on in that condemned building.

On one occasion a book on the U. S. Constitution was brought in by a worker and it was turned down. So the following Sunday a Bible was sent in, and after two days' discussion on it, it was finally admitted. It was either through ignorance or prejudice on the part of Asst. Chief Roy Thomas that this occurred. I will leave the readers to draw their own conclusions.

Riverside City Jail

FEBRUARY 28, 1937
And in that jail house we must pay For "what we did" the other day. Now we had a jury trial. And they found us guilty with a smile. Although we showed the ordinance against the land. The judge said that it must stand. With that domineering fascist gaze, He said: "Forty-five days."

And in that filthy place To put a man is a disgrace. Among the smudge from the orange grove, In the bedding the fleas and bedbugs rove; We are not here like Ruth from Moab; We have the patience of old Job. In this jail house the food is poor; The bunks are hard, our backs are sore. And again the cops are "wise," They won't let us exercise; They want us to be skinny and thin, So it won't be hard to put us in again.
—BOB COOPER.

How Many Did You Answer?

1—The rights of poor and middle farmers to river banks. Farmers' organizations in Stanislaus and other California counties have been fighting the PG&E and other big power corporations, who monopolize these rights.

2—Hernan Laborde. The Mexican trade unions are supporting him for the Chamber of Deputies.

3—The great railroad strike led by the American Railwaymen's Union in 1894.

4—The Teamsters, to which Green gave jurisdiction over all non-waterfront warehouses, even the warehousemen choose to be in the I.L.A. Warehousemen's Union.

5—The Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union; it is progressive. It is part of the Carpenters International, which grants it little autonomy.

Kern County Labor Off of Senator

By a Worker Correspondent
BAKERSFIELD—A letter of the state senator, of the 34th senatorial district, J. J. Waggy, was read and discussed at our recent meeting in Bakersfield of the Central Labor Council.

Senator Waggy stated his "real good reasons" why he voted against concurrent resolution No. 18, to pardon Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings:

"1. Because the senate has no power to over-rule the court.

"2. Because Senator Waggy knew nothing of the case, but only rumors.

"3. Because four California governors refused to pardon in the Mooney-Billings case.

"4. Because the Mooney and Billings case was very well represented in courts."

If that's all the intelligence he had, and not to look up and investigate the things that came up in the state senate, then he does not deserve any support from organized labor.

PROBE STARTS WITH FASCIST 'MANTLE CLUB'

Hitler - Type Outfit In Hot Water As Racket

By a Worker Correspondent
BERKELEY — The fascist "Mantle Club" is to be investigated, according to the papers. This club has all power concentrated in the hands of a few men with headquarters in Wilmington, Del.

Citations were issued for Hugh Bartlett Monjar, once promoter of the outlawed Decimo Club; Bernie Kaiser, local organizer; A. L. Schipper, local secretary; and J. Fenton Jones, member of the national board of governors at Wilmington, to appear before Dep. Atty. William J. Connolly, and will reveal that the \$20 initiation fee and \$2 per month were never received by check—only in cash. Disposition of these funds will be investigated.

Fascist Outfit
The fascist character of the "Mantle Club" is indicated by its printed statement to prospects:

"If you are the type of man who wants to change his mind after giving his word, we do not want you in the organization," and again, power is "concentrated in the hands of a few men who know what has to be done and how to do it."

Monthly meetings are held in a large local auditorium. Members are required to attend meetings regularly and each 10 men must phone their "captain" at specified times once a week. Tab is kept on the movements of all members. No professional men are admitted. The number of sucker members being fished all over the USA is said to be about 25,000. The organization is especially strong along the Pacific Coast.

PERMANENTLY JOBLESS
WASHINGTON—In a report on industrial technique made by the Works Progress Administration, little hope was held for the nation's unemployed.

CANDY UNION PRESIDENT IN BAD DEFEAT

Reactionary Checked In Effort to Oust Rank-and-File

By a Candy Maker
SAN FRANCISCO—At the last meeting of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Union, Local 24, the reactionary president tried to expel a fellow member on the ground that he was a tailor and had no right to be in a Candy Workers' Union. This brother in question took the floor and stated that he was not a tailor, that he was a cutter and designer, that he did not belong to a cutters' and designers' union because as yet no such union existed, that his father was a tailor and had belonged to the Tailors' Union for a long time.

President Put on the Spot
Another worker took the floor in his defense and stated that this worker had been one of the first to start organizing the union, that he was a militant worker, that he was not only a designer but also a good candy worker. He made the workers see that the president was trying to "frame up" the worker in question.

Mr. President was all red and so embarrassed that he abandoned his place and took a seat amongst the audience. He abandoned his post! The worker told him that he shouldn't have done that, that he had taken the floor because he had a perfect right to do so.

It seems there is less room for union fakers in San Francisco now!

STEEL STRIKE ENDS

LEBANON, Pa.—Organization efforts of the CIO shifted to the job as the 3-week strike in Bethlehem Steel here ended with a promise by the company of no discrimination.

Where Greed Took Toll of 455
MEN FROM New London and surrounding East Texas oil towns carry away the dead from school building blown apart by gas explosion which killed 455 children and teachers. Whole atmosphere was surcharged with explosive "wet gas" from nearby Standard Oil wells. Well-to-do school lobby had out corners on heating and ventilation plans.

Mr. Manning is going to fight back at his old boyhood bad luck if his furniture gets tied up in a strike. With Dirty Willie's radio station at his disposal, Mr. Manning declares he is going to yell for volunteers—we trade unionists call them scabs—to go right through those uncouth picket lines and unload his furniture.

This program will surely inspire all trade unionists to dash right down to Dr. Painless Parker to get their dental work done. So they can help pay the scabs and show their appreciation to the labor hating Mr. Manning.

No Union Business For Him
This should be a big help to Dr. Parker whose clientele is doubtless composed largely of workers who take advantage of his credit delinquency as the working class seldom has money to pay cash and will certainly have less if such programs as Dr. Parker's accomplish their purpose.

Clever Capitalists
The Southern Furniture Company used better judgment than Painless Parker when they or KRX took the friendly commentator The Layman off the air.

The Layman disappeared during the Douglas Aircraft strike too and it is not surprising. The Layman sometimes told the radio audience at the beginning of his talk that his sympathies

Workers Win Yuma Sit-Down

By a Field Worker
YUMA, Ariz.—This spring lettuce prices have been exceptionally good, some going as high as \$8 per crate; therefore lettuce growers have been cashing in on their crops.

A few of the growers have volunteered to pass these good prices on to the workers in a small way, by raising wages five cents to ten cents per hour.

Win Sit Down Strike
F. P. Pite, lettuce grower and shipper, failed to be as generous to the field workers as some of the other companies, so the workers, both cutters and packers, went out on a sitdown strike for a half day, thereby winning a ten cents per hour raise.

Cutters were raised from 35 cents to 45 cents per hour, and packers from 25 cents to 35 cents.

"If We Had a Union..."
Now, is such results can be obtained without any union at all, what could be accomplished if we had a good strong agricultural union in our Yuma Valley?

We workers might not be able to send our wives and children to spend the summer at the coast, as most of the big farmers do, but we might be able to afford an electric fan for the summer, or perhaps ice water to drink during hot weather—not many of us can get even those small comforts.

Be There

Tuesday, April 6th—8 P. M. Sharp
121 Haight St.—Auditorium.
Mass Conference of Western Worker readers. Auspices: Western Worker Editorial Staff. This is a long-awaited event. Pack the hall! Bring your friends and fellow workers.

CO. BROUGHT TO KNEES
BRACKENRIDGE, Pa.—A lightning strike forced the Allegheny Steel Co. to sign a contract with the CIO steel union at midnight in a hurry.

ANTI-INJUNCTION BILL

AUSTIN — The Texas house labor committee ignored railroad lobbyists and by unanimous vote favorably reported an anti-injunction bill.

Local 15 decided to carry on the strike and win a victory. Charges will be preferred by Local 15 to the General Executive Board against this double crosser who, by the way, is a member of the International General Executive Board.

Every member of Local 15 pledged at a special membership meeting held on Thursday, March 25, to double their efforts and fighting spirit and carry on until their victory has been gained.

Behind the Stamps
His brother received the letter this time. He pulled off the four stamps, as his brother had told him, and he noticed something written on the back of them.

On one of the stamps was written, "Mussolini is mad." On the second stamp, "Men are slaves here." On the third stamp, "Fascism is hell." And on the fourth, "You were right!"

Better Wages and Hours Won by Seattle Union

SEATTLE, Wash. — Seattle woke up March 10 to find that the Cannery Workers and Farm Laborers Union, Local 16,257, copped another victory for 1937. It is the first time our union has recognized all collective bargaining agent for scores of cannery workers within Seattle proper.

The Northwest Food Products workers had threatened to walk out if their demands for wage increase and better working conditions were not met.

The gains won were recognition of the CFWLU, no discrimination for union activities, 8-hour day, overtime pay, and the following wages: retort and all-around men, 70 cents per hour; kettle men, 65 cents; meat cutters, 65 cents; can catchers, 60 cents; label men, 75 cents; women (filler and misc.), 40 cents; office girl, \$22 per week.

The agreement will last until April 30, 1938.
Patronize our advertisers—Mention WESTERN WORKER.

UPHOLSTERERS' LOCAL IN L. A. ATTACKS KING

Charge S. F. Official With Betraying Strike

By an Upholsterer
LOS ANGELES—S. S. King, reactionary business agent and sole dictator of Local 28, Upholsterers Union of San Francisco "settled" the strike of the Kroehler Furniture Manufacturers Company which lasted for about six months, March 9, without the knowledge of the strikers.

He not only doublecrossed the strikers and the entire membership of Local 28, but the strikers and members of Local 15, Los Angeles and Inglewood. He actually forced the strike on the Los Angeles local six months ago, promising as per agreement between the two locals, that he would not settle unless Los Angeles settled.

The plant in San Francisco was closed completely while in Los Angeles, despite the few seats in the factory, Kroehler lost most of his business as a result of constant picketing around the plant and at the furniture stores.

Many stores signed up with the union including, the Washington and Hill Sts., which gave in only about a week ago.

Then suddenly a telegram came from San Francisco notifying Local 15 that no settlement would take place without Local 15. King did that in order to stave off suspicion because two days later another telegram came notifying Local 15 that the strike was settled which was a shock not only to the members of Local 28 but to Local 15 as well.

A committee was immediately elected by Local 15 and in conjunction with the International Vice-President Pierce Deamer, went to San Francisco to investigate. The reactionary King put every obstacle in the way of the committee to find out the real facts of the settlement. Deamer openly attacked him at a membership meeting of Local 28 and charged him with betrayal, but it was of no avail—it was all over.

Local 15 decided to carry on the strike and win a victory. Charges will be preferred by Local 15 to the General Executive Board against this double crosser who, by the way, is a member of the International General Executive Board.

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Field Workers in Fallon, Nevada, Need Unionism

By an Agricultural Worker
FALLON, Nev.—There is no union of any kind in our community. Wages for agricultural workers are from about \$1.25 to \$2 per day. Housing conditions at most of the ranches are not very good and at some ranches, board is not very good either. A union is desperately needed.

STAMPING THE TRUTH ABOUT FASCIST ITALY

How S.F. Worker Got By Mussolini's Censorship

By a Worker Correspondent
SAN FRANCISCO — A little over a year ago, one of two Italian brothers living in North Beach decided to go to Italy. He told his brother: "I'm going to Italy because today we have a great man there: Mussolini. He is going to conquer the world and make all Italians prosperous and rich in land and money."

His brother told him that it was not the first time that Italy, or any other nation with a nut like Mussolini, had conquered nations, and that all the poor working class got out of the conquering was death, suffering and vile living conditions.

"Great men" like Mussolini are nothing but cruel butchers—tools of the exploiting class, the Fascists," he said. "Therefore, the working class cannot gain anything by their existence."

He Learned Truth
But the other brother did not take his advice, so he went to the land of Mussolini and for one year tried to tell his brother in America how terribly unbearable things are in Italy under the rule of Mussolini, and wrote letter after letter to him telling him so.

But his brother in America did not get any letter, as Mussolini did not want anyone in America to know what a "great man" he is.

Neat Stratagem
The brother in Italy got tired of waiting for answers from his brother in America, and after a little thinking realized there was something wrong with Mussolini's postal department, so he wrote his brother this time a letter telling how wonderful Mussolini was, how wonderful the country under his rule. He also wrote: "You know that my hobby is collecting stamps. You know what wonderful things I do with them. Pull the stamps off the envelope and save them for me, as I intend to go back to America soon."

His brother received the letter this time. He pulled off the four stamps, as his brother had told him, and he noticed something written on the back of them.

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Worker Replies to J.M. on 'Dryness' Of Labor News

By a Worker Correspondent
SAN FRANCISCO—I wanted to write you boys on the "Western" to keep up the good work of improving the paper, as you have been doing.

When you pick up the "Western" now and read it, why you get a real picture of what's happening in the labor movement and among all the people of California as well as the rest of the country.

I bought my paper Saturday morning and saw a letter, signed "J. M." which said trade union news, strike news, etc., is rather dry and tiresome at times.

Wants More Union News
I want to assure J.M. that while I would like to see a movie column, like he calls for, to me and to anyone in the trade union movement, or to any working man, that union and strike news is far from dry. In fact, it's just what we want, and more of it, not less.

Let me tell J.M. that these strikes and progressive gains in the labor movement are serious business for this country and I can't understand any one considering such news as dry.

The worker correspondence and union news are the most interesting parts of the "Western" to me, and far from dry.

Maybe I'm wrong, but I doubt it. Maybe I, and thousands of workers are wrong, but I doubt it.

D.C.

GRASS VALLEY MINERS FACE VIGILANTISM

'Merchants Brigade' Is Planning Anti-Union Army

By a Gold Miner
NEVADA CITY, Nevada County—We, the miners of Grass Valley and Nevada City, are reading our daily papers in a mood of increasing amazement and incredulity. We are reading strange things about local merchants that they, men whom we thought our friends, are organizing an army to overpower us.

Vigilante Terrorists
Only yesterday we learned about formation, or projected formation of a Merchants Brigade. They plan, we hear, to equip the youth of the country, with deadly weapons, with riot guns, pistols, gas bombs.

To be used against whom? We peace-loving and law-abiding miners are wondering. We are greatly puzzled as our only crime has been to organize into a union of our own choice. We understand our President Franklin D. Roosevelt, does not object to unions. Yet our merchants do? Why?

We understand they will organize an ambulance corps? Apparently they intend only to hospitalize us, not to kill us, else they would have contracted with an undertaker too. Or perhaps they have. We do not know.

How About the Navy?
But one thing seems certain. Their preparations must be fairly complete. Yet they have overlooked a good bet. They have concentrated too much on the infantry angle to exclusion of the naval.

We suggest they purchase that worn-out rusted, cruiser of the Mexican Government, mentioned in the papers, and launch it on Deer Creek or Wolf Creek. Or perhaps Lake Olympia would be better.

There is another point we should like to have clarified, who will foot the bill for these preparations? Who is going to buy and pay for these machine guns, these riot guns and gas bombs? Is it the merchants? Or the mine-owners? Or will it be the supervisors of Nevada County who will be called upon to okay funds out of the taxpayers' pockets? This point needs clarification.

Now, as to the membership of this Brigade. Will we be able, when all this is history to speak of the Charge of the Merchants Brigade, the Noble Four Hundred, or will they get someone else to do their work for them? Will they, as reported, recruit the high school youth for their purpose? If so, we think it will be quite a jolly sight to see these lads, sons of our miners, out on the parade grounds learning the use of the weapons of war.

We think their dads, who are working underground in the mines, shoveling, drilling and timbering slopes and drifts, will surely appreciate this picture.

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D.C.

Hurry and Make Your Bid for This Prize!

Only two more weeks to go until the deadline of April 15th!

"Soviet Communism," the historic two volumes by Sidney and Beatrice Webb, valued at \$7.50, can become yours FREE, in this contest for worker correspondents! Just follow these rules:

1. Your entry is a letter to the Workers' Correspondence Editor, Western Worker, 121 Haight St., San Francisco, telling in plain facts and words what the "Western" means to you and your fellow workers in factory, dock, ship, farm or neighborhood; concrete examples can best show this.

2. Letters must have name and address of writer. Name and addresses will NOT be published in the "Western."

3. Letters will be published; write them as long as you please, but some may have to be condensed for publication.

4. Letters must be postmarked before midnight, on April 15, to be eligible.

Labor Wrath Hits Anti-Labor Air Talks

By a Worker Correspondent
GIRARD, L. A. County—When capitalism, masquerading as Americanism, rules the working class off the air there are consequences which the capitalists in their satisfaction probably do not take into consideration. Such a move arouses thousands of liberty loving Americans who up to the time had been rather passive about capitalism's encroachment upon democracy.

Radio stations receive thousands of postcards and letters of protest. From the angle of profit this is bad because it means that these same protesters and thousands more who did not bother to protest will no longer patronize a sponsor who has substituted a stupid or vicious program for one that championed labor.

Banned for Aiding Strikers
A case in point in that of Dr. Painless Parker, who formerly sponsored The Philistine, a liberal who never failed to call attention to labor's side of any current question. I have not been able to learn what happened to The Philistine; for all I know the Lincoln Heights Torquemada may have had him on the rack these last few weeks.

It is said that The Philistine is guilty of the crime of explaining the strikers' side of the Douglas Aircraft strike, and our vigilante lords of the radio intend to see that such a crime

doesn't happen again in sunny California at least.

Dr. Painless Parker's new gift to his radio audience and prospective customers is a honey. Let me introduce Mr. Knox Manning of Boston, or have you met the gentleman before?

"Blue Blood"
I think he may be one of the Bostonians who speak only to the Cabots and the Lodges except when he is speaking on the radio at a salary that you will never get until the workers are well organized in trade unions.

Mr. Manning just loves our beautiful California; it is quite what the All Year Club claimed it to be. There is just one thing wrong with it—we workers keep throwing law-breaking, un-American sitdown strikes because we like to live as well as the bosses and Mr. Manning.

But Mr. Manning is a good law-abiding Fascist and he is going to settle down in our beautiful California and help the All Year Club and the others keep it a playground for the rich. Well, anyway, that is what he thinks.

Mr. Manning's Fear
There is just one obstacle in Mr. Manning's way—fear. He is afraid he will have bad luck! But what would Mary Baker Eddy think of a Bostonian who would hold such a thought? But Mr. Manning says himself that

he never seems to win any of life's prizes except health, a nice family, and a good living; his worst luck comes when he takes a chance on the slot machines or plays the ponies; his luck is so bad he has given up such things and he is even afraid to risk a nickel on a raffle at the church bazaar. He is just sure to lose.

Now Mr. Manning is just worried sick—will he win or will he lose on a maritime strike? He didn't exactly bet on it, but he did have his furniture shipped from Boston via the Panama Canal and in the meantime knowing that California has quite a reputation for handling strike situations, Mr. Manning plunked down a month's salary on a perfect dream of a house, the kind of a million of us Californians would like to have too.

A Special Page of Trade Union News, Developments and Features

The Biggar Bill for a California Industrial Court and Why Labor Is Bitterly Against It; Vigilantism in Placer County; the Big Store Clerks' Union; Phoney Business in Colusa and El Dorado Counties; the Los Angeles Furriers Solid on the Ball Co. Picket Lines; What Happened in Murchie Gold

BIGGAR INDUSTRIAL COURT PLAN FOR CAL. LABOR GETS BITTER LABOR OPPOSITION

Bill Calling for Compulsory Arbitration Would Outlaw Strikes and Needs Hostile Action on Labor's Part

SACRAMENTO—One of California labor's biggest fights is against the Biggar bill, now before the legislature. The Biggar Bill is nothing but a measure which would outlaw all strikes through an industrial court.

Under the bill, a court of seven members would be set up.

Tintypes

Mrs. Schallenberger comes from one of the culinary unions. She huffs and she puffs, like a baby Mack truck climbing a steep hill, when she gets up in our council to blast the Chinese restaurant workers.

She's built like a baby Mack. No personal offense meant; the only reason we mention it is because the girls in her union are emphatically not built like two-ton trucks—not on the wages Mrs. Schallenberger seems content to let them enjoy.

Her pet aversion is Chinese restaurant workers. Not because they refuse to join the union—they're only too anxious. People like Mrs. Schallenberger don't want Chinese in the union, for while they're not, people like Mrs. Schallenberger have someone to attack other than the bosses.

And bosses are, emphatically, not the pet aversion of people like Mrs. Schallenberger.

Murchie Miners Intimidated

NEVADA CITY, Nevada County.—Gold mining employers, scared by the rapid growth of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union (Twin Cities Local) were able to prevail on some of the Murchie mine employees to put themselves on record as favoring the present wage.

They scared a few more into voting that way, under the threat that the mine would shut down unless the miners remained content with the present rates.

The Murchie Mine employs some 300 men. Sentiment of the men in this county is for a \$1 a day wage increase. The CIO union, with 1000 out of 2000 miners in its ranks, will continue the demand for the wage increase.

Shelley, Davis for High Court Change

SAN FRANCISCO—About 700 San Franciscans attended a People's Lobby mass meet Wednesday, to back the Supreme Court reforms. A. F. Gaynor, state legislative chairman of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks was chairman.

John F. Shelley, president of the San Francisco Labor Council, told why organized labor backs the Roosevelt supreme court proposals; he told of the reactionary role, played by the present Supreme Court in respect to labor.

Others who spoke were Dr. Samuel May of the University of California; George T. Davis, Tom Mooney's attorney. Mayor Dore of Seattle was unable to attend.

Raise in Manteca Sugar Wages Made

MANTECA (San Joaquin County)—It hurt the Spreckels Sugar Co., but the rapid growth of organization among workers generally forced the company to grant wage increases of from 5 to 25 per cent.

Wage increases here and in the Woodland plant went into effect March 16.

In a while there will be close to 300 men working in the Woodland plant.

DISTILLERY UNION

SCHENLEY, Pa.—The first step toward a national distillery workers' union was taken by 1800 Schenley Distillery workers here who affiliated with the CIO.

The Remington-Rand Strikers Win a Long, Long Struggle



SECRETARY OF Labor Perkins, left, and Asst. Secretary McGrady at a Washington conference with Pres. James B. Rand, Jr., which brought to an end the 10-months-old strike of Remington-Rand workers. Latter fought gallantly on picket lines in six cities where Remington-Rand plants were struck, and won their demands at last by staying solidly together.

PLACER GROWER VIGILANTE PLAN WON'T SUCCEED

Plan to Imitate Acts in Other Parts of State

AUBURN, Placer County—Big growers in Placer county have borrowed an anti-labor leaf from other counties of California and have formed the Associated Farmers of Placer County.

"To encourage respect for law and order" is a so-called aim of the organization, which intends to violate law and order by kidnappings, and other vigilante outrages. "To protect and preserve American institutions" is another alleged aim—while the organization aims in actuality to foster the un-American institution of low wages.

State's Man, Wool Co. in Cahoots

PORTLAND, Ore.—Tommy Nylander, examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, in a decision rendered, said the Oregon Worsted Company, one of the Northwest's largest mills, had intimidated and coerced its employees in connection with union activities.

The ruling came a few days after a hearing on charges brought by the United Textile Workers of America had closed.

Besides finding that the company had violated the Wagner Act, Nylander asserted that Dr. William G. Everson, member of a State Board of Conciliation Union, had attempted to iron out a strike at the company's plant, had workers "in close cooperation" with Roy T. Bishop, president of the company.

The examiner charged that Bishop and the Conciliation Board "knew in advance the action each would take." The board, last December, recommended that charges before "any other body or court" be dropped.

S. Berdoo Teamos Start With 200

SAN BERNARDINO—San Bernardino's latest union charter is the one just installed for Teamsters Local 487.

The new local started off with over 200 members. A. O. May of Long Beach was transferred here and was elected secretary-treasurer.

Officers of San Diego Local 542 and Long Beach 692 came here for the charter installation.

RUBBER STRIKE FIRM

AKRON—Ten thousand Firestone Rubber workers here entered the fourth week of their strike, holding firm for their demand of sole collective bargaining rights for the United Rubber Workers Union.

Send in news of your union.

"Point of Order" A TRADE UNION COLUMN

by Slim

Recent Labor Developments and their Meaning; the S.P. Strike Vote; the CIO Victory in Columbia Steel at Torrance; CIO and Craft Union Relationship; Joint Organization Drives; Buzzell's Attack on Douglas Settlement; A Move by Green Against Amalgamated Steel Union.

HERE ARE SOME of the most recent developments in the organized labor movement, and their significance.

On the Southern Pacific Railroad, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen have taken strike votes, affecting 8000 men on the system, against consistent violations of agreements by the company.

The men have been forced to stand for the violations for over a year, having been paralyzed under the Railway Labor Act.

They have at length taken definite action toward solving their problem.

The bad features of craft unionism are well brought out by the Southern Pacific developments. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Order of Railway Conductors, themselves victims of the same violations, have refused to join in the strike vote, indicating that if the situation should come to actual strike, the members of these two brotherhoods would be ordered to stand on the two who strike.

While A. F. Whitney, president of the same Trainmen who are taking the S. P. strike vote, blasted ex-President Lowell of Harvard for the latter's attack on sit-down strikers, William Green joined the National Assn. of Manufacturers in declaring sit-downs "illegal."

Incidentally, Harvard's law school dean, Landis, declares sit-down strikes are not illegal. California unions should go on record against the Welsh sit-down bill, which under the guise of declaring sit-downs a misdemeanor instead of a felony, put sit-downs on the law books as a crime.

In Torrance, near Los Angeles, the CIO brought over 1000 Columbia steel workers to a whirlwind meeting. All signed up; an Amalgamated steel lodge was organized, and the company hastened to grant the new union recognition.

This represented another great triumph for the CIO. It brings to mind the necessity of getting your local on record as supporting the organizational drives of the CIO in your areas, morally and financially, and trying to work for the setting up of some kind of an organization committee of both CIO and craft unions to make your locality 100 per cent union.

Steps toward that goal are being taken in San Francisco and the Bay area, where a meeting will be held April 3, initiated by the CIO United Auto Workers Union, to discuss ways and means of uniting the labor movement.

CIO and non-CIO unions are to take part—a good idea for every locality, as is also the idea of joint organizational drives of CIO and non-CIO unions, now being started in Johnstown, Pa., Mansfield, Ohio, Camden, N. J., etc.

In Los Angeles, Secretary Buzzell of the Los Angeles Labor Council, aped William Green (you recall the latter's sour grapes attack on the steel victory of the CIO).

COLUSA ANTI-UNION MOVE IS NOT SO CLEVER

Carpenters Will Find Union Brings Results

COLUSA, Colusa County—Open shop building contractors in this county think they have struck on a good idea to forestall union organization, but they are due to be stung.

The open shoppers have signed an "agreement" for a 5-day, 40-hour week with the carpenters.

The latter will soon find out that organized labor will win them better than that—a 30-hour week with better pay than they are getting under the 40-hour arrangement.

The Colusa Building Exchange admitted it took the move to forestall union organization.

Wooden Boxes in El Dorado County

PLACERVILLE, El Dorado County—When workers are unionized, they remain duck soup for employers' purposes.

The lumber workers in this county have just found this to be true. If they were organized, they'd be fighting for benefits for themselves.

As it is, the lumber companies have brought about the formation of the El Dorado County Wooden Box Assn., affiliated with the Wooden Box Institute, and employees as well as employers have to join it.

The purpose of the organization, says its local chairman, Hugh A. Schaffer, is to "promote the use of wooden boxes."

That should be the job of the bosses, not the workers. What the 1500 men in this county's mill need is unionization, to promote their own interests.

Miscellaneous Men and CIO

DETROIT—Unorganized miscellaneous groups of workers desiring to be organized, are being temporarily accepted into the United Automobile Workers of America, as a result of a decision arrived at during the international executive committee meeting held recently at Cleveland.

Workers thus organized will hold UAWA membership pending their proper classification by the Committee for Industrial Organization. The arrangement is for unorganized workers desiring to become part of the trade union movement, and not for any dissatisfied groups already holding membership in an American Federation of Labor union.

A laboratory and clinic for the study and treatment of occupational disease, especially those related to the auto industry, will be established, it was decided at the same meeting.

Williams Heads Gold Miners in Nevada County

NEVADA CITY—Twin Cities Local 283, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union of Nevada County, has elected John Williams president.

The union has over 1000 of the 2000 Nevada County gold miners in its ranks.

PHENOMENAL GROWTH OF S. F. DEPT. STORE UNION—OVER 2000 HAVE BECOME MEMBERS

Soon Make Demands on Employers; Aim at 40-Hour Week, \$25 Weekly Minimum Wage, Overtime Pay, 7 Holidays

SAN FRANCISCO—Over 2000 members in less than two months!

That's the astounding record of the new department store employees' group in the Retail Clerks Protective Association.

Meetings of the union have been getting larger each time, with the result that the original hall could no longer hold the department store workers who came in such masses. (Over 2300 at latest open mass meetings!)

The first closed meeting of the new union will be held April 7. At that time a tentative program will be adopted, later to be submitted, in final form, to the employers.

Aims of the new union are a 40-hour week and \$25 weekly minimum wage. Union recognition, time and a half for overtime, seven paid holidays each year are other aims.

A basic minimum scale in important departments will be drawn up.

One of the evils the union will take a crack at is temporary work, and another is overtime work. Carmen Lucia, who with Marion Brown is organizer for the new union, says of these evils:

"Temporary workers are asked to come in every day, on the chance that they may get two or three hours' work."

"Sometimes they sit and wait four to five hours—then have no work. Other temporary workers are employed every day, but since they are technically on a temporary basis, they are not eligible to vacations with pay, store discounts, or paid holidays."

Overtime work is another matter which the unions feel works an injustice particularly on stock room employees, wrappers, and shipping clerks.

"When they are asked to work evenings or on holidays, the only extra pay they get is 50 cents for supper money. If they refuse to work, the personnel manager lays them off for a week or two as discipline."

"Culinary workers are sufferers under the present system, too. They are required to report at 7 a. m., and work until 6 p. m., for a \$12 a week average. They have no set time for meals and are allowed to 'grab a lunch' whenever they have a few slack moments, then are frequently called back to work within 10 or 15 minutes."

The new union is industrial, takes in all workers, including office workers.

Utility Racketeers Fight Bond Bill

SACRAMENTO—Huge public utilities monopolies, which have racketeered profits out of the people for decades, tried desperately to block Assembly passage of the Garrison revenue bond bill, already passed by the Senate, on the "grounds" that "passage of this measure will be conducive to the upspringing of racketeers in promotion of revenue projects!"

Will A. Fischer, vice-president of the Southern California Edison Co., personally led the utilities lobby in attacking the bill, which would permit issuance of revenue bonds to finance acquisition and construction of essential utilities by municipalities and other political subdivisions.

CIO Condemns L.A. Violations Of Wage Laws

LOS ANGELES—Charging violations of California minimum wage and minimum hour laws for women by Los Angeles employers, the local CIO organization addressed a letter to the county grand jury and demanded thorough investigation.

Signed by Bill Busick, ILGWU organizer, the letter stated that many employers were violating the \$16 a week minimum wage and 48-hour a week maximum law for women.

CLERKS STRIKE

AKRON, O.—Nine department stores were closed by a strike led by the Retail Clerks Union here. A \$16 weekly minimum is demanded.

Business Agent Bob Says . .

The Liberty League charges President Roosevelt with "contempt of court."

Maybe so. It reminds me of the time a judge said to a lawyer: "Are you trying to show your contempt for this court?" "No, your honor, I'm trying to conceal it."

Under Fire, Gov. Reappoints Her

SACRAMENTO—Despite the fact that an Assembly committee on ways and means has begun an investigation of the past administration of Mrs. Mabel E. Kenney, Governor Merriam has reappointed her as chief of the State Industrial Welfare Division.

Named in 1933 by Governor Rolph, she is charged by Assemblyman Gardiner Jackson of Berkeley with having failed to enforce minimum wage law for women.

She has admitted allowing two agents of a private manufacturers' association to serve as state inspectors.

Furriers Firm in L. A. Picketing

LOS ANGELES—Readers are already informed about the fight which the fur workers are conducting against the Maurice Ball fur establishment at 424 W. 7th St., Los Angeles. Since the early strike of Aug. 5, 1936, this firm has done everything to keep down the standards of the fur workers and consistently refused collective bargaining.

To stop the union activities, Maurice Ball applied for an injunction in December, 1936, and was granted a temporary restraining order by Judge Rubin Schmidt. The hearing on this injunction started March 10 and continued for five days. Judge Vickers took the case under advisement. After briefs are presented to him by the attorneys of both sides, the verdict will come in a few weeks.

This injunction involved not only the Fur Workers' Union, Local 87, but also the Central Labor Council of our city. The Los Angeles Citizen, which was also mentioned as a defendant in the injunction, was dropped.

The fur workers continue to picket Maurice Ball's shop and have decided to continue until this firm will grant its workers collective bargaining, higher wages and shorter hours—to comply with the general standards of the fur industry in Los Angeles.

Waterfront C. P. Section Appeals For Furniture

After the successful waterfront strike, our comrades on the waterfront decided to put the Party section on the map and further its organizational work and build a mass Party organization.

As one of its first steps, the Waterfront Section just rented a Party headquarters. In order to get this headquarters functioning, the comrades need facilities and furniture. Through The Western Worker we appeal to all comrades and sympathizers to donate whatever furniture and office equipment you have to the waterfront comrades.

Telephone the county office at 121 Haight St., to Comrade Spector, and let us know what you can donate for this all-important purpose.—Waterfront Section, San Francisco.